



Crash highlights need for road upgrade says MP

NORTH Shropshire MP Owen Paterson has repeated his calls for the A5 near Oswestry to become a dual carriageway fit for the 21st century.

The call comes following the latest serious collision to happen on the road.

Emergency services were called to the two-vehicle collision near Queens Head at about 7.25am on Sunday.

A couple, both aged in their 70s, in a blue Subaru Legacy, were flown by air ambulance to Royal Stoke University Hospital with serious internal injuries, which were described by the emergency services as "life changing".

The man's injuries were yesterday (Wednesday) described as "significant and life threatening" and the

woman is described as stable but her injuries were described as "life threatening". The driver of a silver Volkswagen Jetta, a man in his 40s, sustained head and hand injuries and was taken to Royal Shrewsbury Hospital by ambulance.

Damage caused by the crash meant that part of the carriageway had to be resurfaced and the A5 was closed

in both directions for most of Sunday between the B4397 at Shotatton and the Mile End roundabout.

Mr Paterson said: "This accident was awful for those concerned and traumatic for their friends and family. We need to get the A5 up to modern standards. The Queens Head section was built 25 years ago but although it is quite new, it is still dan-

gerous. The only solution is to have a proper dual carriageway in both directions and we need to get this project into the long-term strategy. And I aim to meet Transport Minister John Hayes shortly, to discuss this."

Police would like to hear from anyone who witnessed the incident or anybody who may have seen either car shortly before the collision.

ENVIRONMENT

Battle starts on plan to shut down recycling centres

POWYS County Council is being urged to rethink its plans to close waste recycling centres.

Councillor Graham Breeze, chairman of Welshpool Town Council's council services and property committee, has launched a campaign to protect the town's recycling centre.

"I am extremely disturbed at revelations that Powys County Council is discussing closing the town's recycling centre, having already decided to remove the bins from Berriew Street car park," he said. "You only have to visit the site for 10 minutes to realise just how much the people of Welshpool and the surrounding area depend on this facility."

"I shall be calling on the town council to voice total opposition to any cuts at this facility. Do they really expect people to travel to Newtown with their waste?"

Councillor Breeze's comments come as Powys County Council begin consulting on the future of its five household waste and recycling centres.

It has said it needs to save £700,000 from the service from April 2017.

Montgomeryshire Liberal Democrats have also launched a petition to urge the authority to drop the option of closing recycling centres.

The petition will be available in local shops and is online at www.montlibdems.org.uk/recycle-centres

● Sites - See Page 4

FUNERAL

Undertaker sorry over body mix-up

AN undertaker has issued a "heartfelt apology" after a funeral had to be halted when the wrong body was brought to the service.

Mourners sat through a full service before the mix-up was detected.

Geraint Peate, of RG Peate Funeral Directors in Welshpool, issued a "heartfelt apology".

Mr Peate, who has conducted countless funerals from his Salop Road business for 40 years, stressed that he had been left devastated by the "genuine human error" at St Cadfan Church, Llangadfan.

● Error - See Page 3

COUNCILS BACK A&E SITE FIGHT

Report by Sue Austin

COUNCILS throughout the Oswestry area and into Mid Wales have backed a campaign for Shropshire's new emergency centre to be based in Shrewsbury.

This week saw Weston Rhyn Parish Council become the latest to write to the NHS Future Fit consultation urging bosses to name the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital as the site for the accident and emergency unit.

The health campaign has been spearheaded by Oswestry Mayor Paul Milner who has contacted numerous town and parish councils across the area to win support for his battle. He says through his campaign he has reached out to about 100,000 people in the past four months. Councillor Milner has visited or written to councils including West Felton, Pant and Llanyrnnech, Oswestry Rural Parish, Whittington and Ellesmere and across the Welsh

border, Welshpool and Llanfyllin. He said: "The councils have all backed the campaign for the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital to house the super accident and emergency centre. By taking the message around the parishes, instead of 18,000 people in Oswestry that I could contact as mayor, I will have reached out to about 100,000 people."

Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies says he fears delays in the A&E decision are in danger of putting patients at risk. He was speaking after health chiefs last week put off a recommendation for A&E for up to four weeks over worries of legal action by Telford councillors.

He said: "I have always believed the only logical location for an emergency centre is on the site of the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital."

In his Chronicle column this week North Shropshire MP Owen Paterson has criticised Telford councillors over their health stance, saying the council should be closed down and an authority serving all of Shropshire established.

● Column - See Page 6

Children catch reading bug thanks to new library



In the library are Katie Dean, Mae Tetlow, Ellie Williams, Patrick Power, Charlie Adams and Anie Slawson with teacher Steph Arias

CHILDREN at a village primary school are getting the reading bug, thanks to their new library.

The library at Weston Rhyn School has been completely transformed and parents are being invited in before and after lessons to help choose books with their children.

Headteacher Richard Hines said it was vital for children not only to be able to read well, but to enjoy reading. He said: "We have put a partition up so that the library is now a separate room. We have redecorated and there is

now a soft cosy corner with sofas and bean bags so that the children can relax when they are reading." Deputy head Abbey Cullen said the cosy corner was part of the Read-with-Me programme at the school. "Parents can come in before and after school to sit and read with their children and choose books to take home," she said. For those parents who can't get into school there is also an online reading list to browse through with the children.

She said: "The children all have their own library cards that we have made and we work

closely with Shropshire Library Service so that we can keep refreshing the books we have. The service has been a great help."

Miss Cullen said there were books from all ages from the popular story sacks for the very young children to titles that will appeal to the older children and to boys in particular.

She said she was grateful to Neil Williams who spray-painted artwork in the library, to staff members Steph Arias, Helen Gilbert and Katie Gilbert and to all the parents who helped to set up the new library.

INSIDE

Famous faces meet the mayor



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Inquest told farmer died in farm quad bike tragedy

Report by Naomi Penrose

A FARMER was killed after losing control of a quad bike, an inquest heard.

John Goronwy Edwards, known as Gron to his loved ones, died from multiple injuries including a broken back in two places, as well as extensive rib and chest injuries.

They were caused by an accident which happened at Cwmcilan in Llanrhaeadr Ym Mochnant – the farm he was born, lived and worked on.

The accident had been witnessed by his two nephews and great-nephew.

A farmer all his life, Mr Edwards, 82, had retired in 2013 just before his 80th birthday but rented out his land to nephews Arthur Owen Edwards and John Meirion Edwards and still helped out on the farm.

Mr Edwards died on August 12 after he fell forward over the handlebars of the Honda quad bike which landed on him. He had reversed it on the gravel track he was travelling on and it "suddenly and violently" accelerated for it to veer to the right and onto a steep grass bank.

John Edwards, who gave evidence via the witness box during the hearing at Welshpool Magistrates Court on Friday, said his uncle had farmed all of his life and was a respected farmer and in particular, sheep breeder.

He said: "He did find it difficult to give up so he carried on his farming through us. "He was a countryside man that was basically his hobby really, he attended markets still, would see how we were doing and encouraged us."

Aled Thomas, forensic vehicle examiner for Dyfed-Powys Police, who checked over the vehicle following Mr Edwards's death deemed the bike – which had been purchased in March this year – in good condition with no mechanical defects which could have been a contributory factor.

However he did question whether the handlebar mitts on the bike had possibly played a part in the "mismanagement" of the quad bike.

In his conclusion Powys coroner Andrew Barkley said Mr Edwards had been born on the farm, lived there and by a "twist of fate" died there. He also said Mr Edwards's brother was also killed in a farming accident in 1986.

Mr Barkley concluded Mr Edwards death had been accidental.

Police issue warning over clown pranks



This clown was spotted in an alleyway in Oswestry close to The Marches School

TUCKED in a passageway, a clown lurks with the intention of scaring children as they walk to school.

This image was taken in Upper Church Street, near The Marches School in Oswestry.

It is the latest incident in a bizarre craze that is causing West Mercia Police increasing concern.

Police were seen knocking on doors on Oswestry this week after complaints were made about this clown. There were also unsubstantiated reports of a clown lurking around Grove School in Market Drayton and another report of a clown chasing people in Tuxton, Telford.

And it was revealed there have been 37 reports of incidents involving clowns in the West Mercia Police area in recent weeks, with at least three in Shropshire between last Wednesday and Monday this week.

The police say that the reports include people posting on social media, as well as sightings of people dressed as clowns.

The craze, which originates in America, involves people dressing as clowns and trying to surprise members of the public in an attempt to scare them.

Superintendent Kevin Purcell of West Mercia Police called on those taking part in the pranks to think about their actions. He said: "Since last week we have re-

ceived reports from scared and worried members of the public. We believe this is linked to a wider trend.

"While we understand that such incidents could be considered pranks by some I would like to appeal to those carrying out this behaviour, or thinking of taking part, to really consider the distress and fear they could cause people, particularly the more vulnerable members of our community such as children and the elderly."

Supt Purcell also warned that those responsible could face police action over the incidents. He said: "I would also warn them that there are further consequences to their behaviour."

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Body error at funeral halts service

A FUNERAL service had to be halted – after it became clear the undertaker had brought along the wrong body.

Mourners sat through a full service before the mix-up was detected.

The confusion happened during a funeral held in a village near Welshpool. Geraint Peate, of RG Peate Funeral Directors in Welshpool issued a “heartfelt apology”.

Mr Peate, who has conducted countless funerals from his Salop Road business for 40 years, stressed that he had been left devastated by the “genuine human error” at St Cadfan Church, Llangadfan.

“It is with deep regret that I confirm that a genuine mistake due to human error was made at a funeral on Friday,” he said. “The matter was rectified immediately.”

“Unfortunately, I was not present at the time as I was attending another funeral, at another location.”

“I went later, as soon as I could, to see the family, to offer my heartfelt apologies and regrets. It was obviously deeply distressing for the family and to those attending the funeral – also to myself and the staff.”

The error came to light when flowers were removed from the casket at the grave and the wrong name was on the plaque.

The funeral was able to continue after the caskets were swapped and the correct body was buried.

Unit boss in line for a top award

A DEMENTIA unit boss has been shortlisted for a major award.

Cristina Poama, who lives in Welshpool, is a trained nurse who has been head of the Memory Lane dementia unit at Rhallt Care Home in the town since earlier this year.

She often goes above and beyond the call of duty to ensure that the standard of care provided is of the highest level and says she always tries to lead her team of over 25 staff by personal example.

It is this dedicated approach to her caring role that has landed Cristina a place in the final of major national competition, the 2016 Wales Care Awards.

This is the 14th anniversary of the awards.

The glittering presentation ceremony will be held at City Hall in Cardiff on Friday next week.

Suspended jail term for violent attack on man

Report by Arthur Mills

A MOTHER who ‘tortured’ a man with a pair of hair-straighteners at a house has escaped an immediate prison sentence.

Thomas Mellor was left with burns and scars on his right arm after he was faced by three women in the incident more than a year ago.

He was struck with a bottle, punched and sprayed in the face with kitchen cleaner and was threatened with more violence.

Corinna Hanson was said to have “lost control” as she and the other two women assaulted the victim at Caer Road, Oswestry, in September last year.

At Shrewsbury Crown Court on Friday, 37-year-old Hanson was given a 16-month prison sentence, suspended for two years. Judge Jim Tindal said that Hanson had been “incredibly angry” when she confronted the victim. “While the violence had not been planned you lost your temper and self control and were involved in branding Mr Mellor with the hair-straighteners,” he said. The court heard that Mr Mellor was alleged to have been involved with Hanson’s daughter the night before.

Judge Tindal said that Hanson did not have the right to take matters into her own hands and whatever she believed Mr Mellor had done, did not justify what happened.

Hanson, of Sydney Cottage Drive, Bridgnorth, who had admitted a charge of assault causing actual bodily harm, must also complete a rehabilitation programme and 150 hours unpaid work and pay £200 costs. Kerri Edge, 34, and Charlotte Roberts, 42, both of Caer Road, had denied the same charge and were due to face trial, but pleaded guilty to a charge of common assault. Judge Tindal gave Roberts a conditional discharge for two years and Edge a conditional discharge for a year and both women must pay £200 costs.

Ian Windridge, for Hanson, said his client was a single mother-of- three and she had not anticipated there being violence but had snapped and lost control and accepts she should not have done what she did. Paul Smith, for Edge, said his client had been a teaching assistant but lost her job and now worked at a KFC fast food restaurant.

He said she had handled Mr Mellor roughly as she was getting out of the house after the incident. The court heard that Roberts was involved in a single punch.

Tributes to ‘life and soul of party’



Guy Evans doing one of the things he loved so much – playing pool with his mates

THE family of a man who died suddenly at the weekend have paid tribute to “a legend who lit up every room he walked into”.

Guy Evans, 25, from St Martins, near Oswestry, died on Saturday night after enjoying some drinks with his friends.

The news of Guy’s death has devastated the community, as he was well known by many for being a regular in The Keys in St Martins and pubs in Oswestry, where he’d often jump on the karaoke, as well as joining in on hen and stag parties.

His mother Helen Evans said her son, who had dwarfism, lived his life

to the fullest – despite his condition.

She said: “Guy didn’t let his disability stop him. He always said he wouldn’t want to be any other way because of the fun he had. Guy was only small but he had the confidence of a six-foot-something man.”

“He was always the life and soul of the party with so many friends, everyone loved Guy and he loved them, he never had a bad word to say about anybody.”

Known for his good sense of humour, Guy would often dress up on nights out as Elvis or as one of Willy Wonka’s Oompa Loompas.

Mrs Evans said: “He didn’t mind

taking the mick out of himself, he just wanted a good time.”

“He made everyone smile everywhere he went, and he’s done a lot in his short number of years, he used to go on holiday to Benidorm with his friends and everyone there loved him, there’s so many stories you could write a book, when he went to Scotland he dressed up as a Scotsman, kilt too.”

As well as his love of enjoying a good night out, Guy was also a dedicated Arsenal fan, enjoyed fishing and was a keen pool player, known by many as ‘Sharky’ because friends said he was a ‘pool shark’.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Jobs fair to be held at The Centre

JOB hunters and people interested in volunteering are being invited to a job fair next month.

The event, which will be held at The Centre, Oak Street, Oswestry on November 24, will see Job Centre Plus and local businesses share the current work opportunities they have to offer.

At the event there will also be a chance to speak to the businesses directly and find out more about the business and what the role entails.

Supported by Qube, the fair will also host groups looking to recruit volunteers. There will be information on training opportunities from a wide range of organisations including local education providers, giving people the chance to find out what they can do to make themselves more employable.

The event will be held from 10am until 2pm.

Village is voted best in the region

BLACK and white cottages surround a stunning church, while the River Rhiw winds its way through the centre of the village.

It has attracted tourists from across the region for years and now the village of Berriew, near Welshpool, has been named the best in Mid Wales.

Judges from the Campaign for the Protection of Rural Wales teamed up with estate agents and chartered surveyors Morris, Marshall and Poole to give out the award. Eleven villages entered the competition, with the runners up being Guilsfield and Llanymynech.

CPRW president and broadcaster Jules Hudson revealed the winner at a ceremony in Welshpool.

See the Bard’s best bits at library

THE award-winning Oddsock’s Theatre Company will be performing The Bard’s Best Bits of Romeo and Juliet at Oswestry Library on October 27.

Thanks to a grant from Arts Council England, tickets are free to see this 90-minute version of Shakespeare’s famous tale.

The performance is from 10.30 to noon and tickets need to be booked in advance. For more information or to book a free seat, contact Oswestry Library on (01743) 250381 or email oswestry.library@shropshire.gov.uk

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The late Harold Jones

Warm tributes paid to war hero Harold

TRIBUTES have been paid to a war hero who has died after a short illness.

Welshpool Royal Welch Fusiliers Branch said Harold Jones was their longest serving branch member, a "true gentleman" and a "hero".

Mr Jones died at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital on Monday last week.

A spokesman from the branch

said: "We are so sad to report the death of our longest serving branch member Harold Jones RWF1.

"Harold passed away at the Royal Shrewsbury, after a short illness.

"Mobilised at the start of World War Two and eventually posted to 1RWF, Harold sailed to India in 1942 with his battalion and did not return home to Welshpool until November 1945.

"In March 1943, he fought with his battalion at the Battle of Don-baik and a year later in May 1944 he was wounded at the Battle of Kohima.

"Both those actions caused the battalion very heavy casualties.

"After recovering from his wounds, he rejoined his unit at Milestone 82 and fought through the remainder of the Imphal Cam-

paign until VJ Day in Aug 1945. He finally left the regiment in 1946.

"Harold was a much-loved and respected member of the branch and the greater Welshpool community. His lovely family are in our thoughts and we send all our sympathies to his children Nichola, Sandra and Adrian and his grandchildren at this very sad time." Funeral details are to be confirmed.

Discarded syringes are found in town's play park

Report by Naomi Penrose

DISCARDED syringes have been found at a play park next to a school.

The syringes were discovered by a parent close to picnic tables at the play park in Chapel Lane next to Chirk Infant School.

Town councillor Terry Evans, who also represents the Chirk South ward on Wrexham County Borough Council, said the syringes were a "frightening discovery" but said he believed they had been used been for medical reasons, rather than for illegal drug use.

He said: "It's still very worrying and when I'd first heard about them I was horrified. 'It's still a hazard for them to be lying around, a child could easily pick them up. Even if they are for medical use, they should be disposed of rather than left. I've now collected them and have tried contacting our PCSO,

so I can highlight the park as a possible hotspot."

Following the discovery on Wednesday last week, Councillor Evans said an inspection of the park had taken place, where nothing else was found.

He said he would also be contacting the clerk of Chirk Town Council to ensure the cleaner attends the park first thing in the mornings to thoroughly check and sweep the site.

Councillor Evans said: "This is a first, I know Chirk has drug issues but no worse than anywhere else but I do think this was a syringe used by someone with a medical condition.

"The park hasn't long been upgraded so of course we want to keep it in the best and safest condition possible."

It comes after members of a Wrexham County Borough Council scrutiny committee last week heard from the Unsafely Discarded Needles Task and Finish Group, which discussed the issue of drug litter. The group was put together by the authority's safeguarding, communities and wellbeing scrutiny committee in November last year in a bid to look at the problem of improperly disposed drug paraphernalia, and the impact it could have on communities.

Recycle sites could close

WASTE recycling centres could be closed as part of a council's bid to make savings.

Powys County Council is to begin consulting on the future of its five household waste and recycling centres, including those in Welshpool and Newtown. It says it needs to save £700,000 from the service.

Councillor John Powell, Cabinet Member for Waste and Recycling, said: "We are facing unprecedented financial pressures as we look to save £29.8 million up to 2019.

"As part of our balanced three-year financial plan, which was approved by full council earlier this year, a number of savings proposals were put forward. One of the proposed savings is to reduce the amount of household waste and recycling centres in the county. The savings we need to make means that the level of service we currently have in place cannot be sustained." Details of the consultation will be announced shortly.

Mayor meets famous four



Lorraine Chase, Paul Milner, Simon Callow, Debbie McGee and Nigel Havers

FOUR famous faces were given the low-down on Oswestry after stopping at a hotel while filming a television show.

Nigel Havers, Simon Callow, Lorraine Chase and Debbie McGee stayed at Oswestry's Wynnstay Hotel over the weekend while filming a programme about the Shropshire Union canal.

While enjoying a drink in the hotel bar, the four were spotted by the town's mayor, Councillor Paul Milner, who approached them and filmed them in on the town's history. Earlier they had been filming segments along the canal in Ellesmere and

Chirk. Councillor Milner was at the hotel to hand out prizes during the Wynnstay Bowling Club's presentation evening.

"They were all sitting together and someone said I should go over and introduce myself," he said. "They were lovely, they were asking me about the history of Oswestry and about the Mayoral chain, they were very interested. I was able to tell them about the legend of King Oswald and how the eagle flew off with his arm and dropped it where Oswald's Well spring sprung up. It is great for the town that such famous people are here and exploring the area."

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Nursery given 'inadequate' rating by inspection team

Report by Naomi Penrose

A NURSERY has been rated inadequate following a critical Ofsted inspection.

Footsteps Nursery, situated in the grounds of North Shropshire College in Oswestry, was rated inadequate in all areas, despite being judged good during a previous inspection in 2013.

Inspectors said that poor communication between leaders has led to "ineffective leadership, inadequate safeguarding arrangements, poor self-evaluation and a clear lack of oversight of the quality of care, teaching and learning" at the nursery.

Leaders at the nursery were also criticised for "failing to work together to create a positive safeguarding culture" following the inspection led by inspector Deborah Udkis.

Large cuts planned for youth clubs

FUNDING for youth clubs will be halved as part of cuts planned by Shropshire Council.

The council wants to cut funding for youth services from £234,950 to £117,250 next year. Shrewsbury would be one of the worst affected areas, losing £40,000 in grants currently given to Shrewsbury Town Council for the service. Oswestry's grant for youth services will be cut from £24,640 to £11,500, Market Drayton from £24,060 to £11,500, Whitchurch from £15,580 to £11,500, and Longden, Ford, Rea Valley and Loton from £16,630 to £6,000.

Shrewsbury is one of only a number of areas which will lose out if Shropshire Council's cabinet approves the funding cut next Wednesday.

A number of areas will see their funding cut from £3,000 a year to zero under the proposals. They include Chirbury, Ellesmere, Five Perry Parishes, St Oswald, Craven Arms and rural and Much Wenlock and Shipton. In a report on the proposals Shropshire Council says the funding will allow for Shrewsbury, Oswestry, Market Drayton, Whitchurch, Ludlow and Bridgnorth, to employ two youth workers per session. It also says that no future room hire charges will be subsidised by the authority. For Minsterley, Weston Rhyn, Gobowen and Wem the funding will provide one youth worker per session, leaving the groups to come up with finding for another worker.

Her report said: "Staff have a poor understanding of wider child protection issues. Leaders do not complete, or record, all the required investigations and checks to ensure the suitability of staff."

Ofsted officers said the inspection, which took place in September, had been brought forward as a result of a risk assessment and concerns that safeguarding arrangements may not be secure.

The nursery belongs to the college, which was judged by Ofsted inspectors as inadequate following an inspection in January. In its summary of findings, her report stated: "North Shropshire College (the provider) has failed to learn essential lessons from its own previous inspections when safeguarding arrangements were found to be of serious concern. The arrangements to safeguard children in the nursery are ineffective."

However, inspectors noted that parents "hold the nursery in high regard" and that relationships between staff and children at the nursery were strong. A spokeswoman for Footsteps said: "Footsteps Nursery in Oswestry had an unannounced visit from Ofsted on September 12. For anyone who has dealt with Footsteps in recent years, you will know we have received a Grade 2 (good) in the past two inspections. It is therefore extremely disappointing that on this occasion, under the new inspection framework, the nursery received a Grade 4 (inadequate). The weaknesses highlighted in the report have been swiftly and robustly addressed, and the management and staff are determined to achieve Grade 2 within six months when the next inspection will take place."

"A new student services manager is in post to support the improvement action plan. The inspection highlighted a number of strengths such as good security of the building/entrance, warm and trusting relationships between children and staff, and parents have high regard for the nursery."

Car destroyed by engine fire



A fire destroyed a BMW car in Oswestry after it ripped through the engine
AN engine fire destroyed a car on a housing estate.

The fire ripped through the engine of the BMW saloon car on the Eaton Fields estate in Oswestry.

Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service said it was called to the fire at 1.24pm on Monday and there were no reports of any injuries.

The occupiers were believed to be in the car when the fire first broke out.

A fire service spokesman said: "The owners were in attendance and it appears that the fire started in the engine."

"One fire appliance was mobilised from Oswestry and crews used two sets of breathing apparatus, two hose reel jets and a thermal imaging camera."

"The private saloon car was 100 per cent destroyed by the fire."

"The stop message was received at 1.47pm."

Meanwhile, crews were called to Park Hall Farm in Oswestry at 4.28am on the same day.

One fire crew from the town attended the incident but on arrival it was found to be a false alarm.

The crew returned to base at 5.18am after checks.

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BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

I'm starting to believe the lunatics really are running the asylum that is Powys County Council – and plans to close or downgrade household waste recycling centres probably provide the final piece of the proof jigsaw.

This is madness beyond madness. Even considering, the money-saving option, to close the gates on Welshpool's recycling centre is insane, coming on the back of a decision to reduce refuse collection from every two to three weeks. And believe me they are talking about going monthly.

Not long ago Powys County Council defended the move to three-weekly collections by encouraging people to use their local household waste recycling centre – yes, the ones they are now talking about closing.

If I hadn't seen the proposals with my own eyes I wouldn't have believed what I am now writing.

A little bird tells me the council is now keeping a very close eye on the situation in North Wales where Conwy Council in experimenting with a monthly refuse collection system. There's already an outcry on the north coast but council bosses there say they have no option.

Is there really any joined-up thinking in the corridors of power at Llandrindod Wells? It certainly wouldn't seem so because the council also just agreed to remove the refuse bins from Welshpool's Berriew Street Car Park, telling residents to take their waste to the household waste recycling centre – yes, that's the one they now want to close.

Foreseeing an outcry at the latest plans the council has decided to go out to consultation – to "determine opinion on the available options and also evaluate the impact the proposals would have in the community."

Well it doesn't take a genius to predict that every single person in Powys will strongly oppose these proposals and that every single town and community council will come out fighting this desperately flawed idea put forward by the council's cabinet.

We all know that the council has been forced to make massive cutbacks due to reduced funding from the Welsh Government and we all know that to make those savings difficult decisions have to be made.

But there are difficult decisions backed up by sensible and well thought-out plans and there are difficult decisions made in panic. This is a classic example of the latter and must be strongly opposed across the county.

There's also the small matter of an election looming next May when an entirely new Cabinet could well be in place so it's up to everyone in Powys to let the council know how strongly we feel about our recycling centres. It's up to us all to oppose it.



Emma Lozano Doogan with her dog Bella on her local beach near Valencia



Emma Lozano Doogan was born in Valencia and has family ties to Shropshire



Some of Emma's family are from Whittington, which has its own attractions including its castle

Journalist Emma enjoys the best of both worlds

Sunny Spain or spectacular Shropshire? EMMA LOZANO DOOGAN gives her views on the big differences

BORN in Valencia, Spanish journalist Emma Lozano Doogan, has close links to Shropshire.

Her mother is Oswestry-born Paula, who was raised in Whittington near Oswestry and moved to Valencia to marry Fernando, Emma's father.

The 22-year-old graduate describes herself as a "big city girl" but also likes coming over to visit the beautiful countryside in Shropshire. Emma, who recently spent some time working at the Oswestry and Border Chronicle, says she particularly enjoys Shropshire's rolling green countryside because she describes Valencia's scenery as "yellow and dry".

But what is the big difference between sunny Spain and spectacular Shropshire?

Emma says: "Coming from a home where my parents have different nationalities, I have always felt lucky about knowing and understanding different cultures. I consider myself a hybrid – 50 per cent English and 50 per cent Spanish, so my points of view are a mixture of both sides. My house is bilingual, I speak to my mother in English and to my father in Spanish. Dinners can be chaotic when we all sit at the table. Mum taught me the English ways, like drinking tea and dad showed me the Spanish ways, like enjoying a good paella.

"After 22 years, I would say the biggest difference between my two countries is the lifestyle. The weather plays a big role in this sense. Because it's normally sunny in Valencia and it doesn't get that cold, we live quite 'outdoorsy' lives. My mother and I share a hobby: horse riding.



The rolling hills of Shropshire are a delight for many visitors

"One of the best things about living in Valencia is being able to ride on the beach. When you meet riders at the seaside, they always talk about how it's the best feeling in the world to just relax on your horse and enjoy the scenery under the sun. You can even get off your horse and enjoy a nice beer near the sea in one of the many restaurants on the coastal paths. But at the same time, sometimes, as a horse lover, you wish you didn't have to keep your horse in stables and you envy the green fields the English horses enjoy.

"Again, because of the weather, people in Valencia take their dogs on walks to the beach all year round. So, as one can see, the beach is quite an important part of a Valencian's life. As a result, it's hard for those who have been born there to move to a cold place without a coast.

"Just as beach is important for Valencians, countryside is important to the Brits. I can't imagine my English grandparents moving to Spain and spending the summer in any of its cities, where the temperature can even go up to 45 degrees Celsius. Another big difference is timetables. Social life in Spain starts at 9pm because people work until eight, so the meet up with friends later to have a drink or a meal. Shops and businesses will stay open until 10pm and days end a lot later. Lunchtime is at 2pm and dinner is between 9pm and 10pm.

"We even have our own names for snacks: whatever you eat between lunch and dinner is called Merienda. Spanish people have what we call warm blood, something I have inherited from my father's side. This makes us quite passionate about anything we are in-

terested in. That's something that compels 13-year-old children to talk about politics; something that surprises many tourists, but is really common in Spain. In every family meal there are political conversations, it's a subject that is present on a daily basis.

"This is easy to understand when you think about the political history. Democracy is quite young in El Congreso de los Diputados, dictator Franco only died in 1975. When Franco was alive there was no freedom of speech, so people were afraid of talking about politics in public. Politics in Spain has been a rollercoaster suffering many changes throughout the years. It's even difficult today, since Spain hasn't had a proper president since December. Instability has nurtured this aspect of Spanish culture, whereas stability has made British politics more moderate. There are also big differences in food. The English are famous for roast dinners and fish and chips, whereas the Spanish are known for tapas and rice. The Mediterranean diet has also been influenced by history. Because Spain was a very poor country, the dishes weren't prepared with a lot of meat. The bases of the diet are cereal, vegetables, fruit and fish.

"On the other hand, meat and vegetables have the leading role in British food.

"How could we forget the biggest difference – the language? They don't even have the same roots. One comes from Latin and the other is Germanic. Weather, history and character have moulded the two cultures and made them different but in those differences we can find some similarities. Because of globalisation, Western civilisation has become more heterogeneous, so things like music and fashion tend to be the same in Europe.

"We all shop in H&M and listen to Bruno Mars whilst driving a Fiat, a Seat or an Audi.

"But, we cannot forget, 'variety is the very spice of life that gives it all its flavour'."

WORKING FOR YOU



Since 2014 the NHS Future Fit programme, led by local clinical professionals, has been reviewing hospital services. We must respect their judgement.

The most likely proposal to emerge is that the two current A&Es in Shrewsbury and Telford will continue providing 80 per cent of their current services but will be renamed Urgent Care Centres. More will be opened which is great news for North Shropshire as Oswestry and Whitchurch would be ideal.

On top of this a brand new Emergency Care Centre costing £300million will be built ensuring that the most traumatic cases are treated locally and top class clinical specialists are attracted back into the county. Incredibly this investment is being presented by some campaigners as a savage cut.

At a meeting with MPs last week Anthony Marsh, chief executive of West Midlands Ambulance Service, assured us that his paramedics are so skilled that he is not concerned about journey times so long as the specialist destination can unload patients rapidly. He made it clear that gearing up the ambulance service will be a key part of the Future Fit programme.

The whole Future Fit process has cost the taxpayer well over £2million and has taken far too long. It is absolutely infuriating that Telford and Wrekin Council have now decided to mount a legal challenge using taxpayers' money. As I understand it they have been closely involved in the process all along; their challenge is either based on ignorance or a deliberate attempt to mislead the public that the A&E in Telford might close. In fact it will continue to provide 80 per cent of its current services, although renamed an Urgent Care Centre. Their legal challenge has forced the CCG into imposing a one month pause. This will be a total waste of public money; further delay could jeopardise not just the whole process but force one of the A&Es to be closed temporarily or permanently. This really would put patients at risk. The massive £300million investment in a state of the art Emergency Care Centre may now be threatened by the vanity of a small number of Telford politicians. Their deliberate misrepresentation of the Future Fit proposals shows that Telford and Wrekin Council is not fit for purpose. It was a great mistake to break up Shropshire in 1998; it has been a continuous entity since Saxon times. I am quite clear that it would be much better to close down Telford and Wrekin Council, put the significant savings into public services and establish a unitary council working for the good of the whole of Shropshire.

Owen Paterson
North Shropshire MP

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CAN CARE HOME MAKE ME PAY FEES FOR WHEN MUM WAS IN HOSPITAL PRIOR TO HER DEATH?

Q: My mother recently died in hospital, having been taken there seven weeks earlier from the private Care Home where she had lived for four years.

The care costs had eaten most of her savings, but as sole beneficiary of her Will I had been looking forward to receiving what was left. However, I have now received a letter from the Care Home requesting payment of fees for the time she spent in hospital, together with other costs she had incurred. Can I be held liable to pay this now she has died?

A: When someone dies owing money their debts unfortunately do not die with them. They must be paid out of the person's estate.

It may be the case that the deceased had taken out an insurance policy which would pay out on their death and which is of sufficient value to cover the debt. If however there is not enough available cash, either through such a policy or in savings, then property and personal possessions must be sold to raise the funds to cover the debt. If this should happen it is important not to sell anything for no more than its current market value, as if it is sold above market value the sale will incur a taxable charge.

If there is insufficient funds in the deceased's estate to clear the debt even after possessions have been sold, the debt will not pass on to a family member of the deceased unless that individual was involved in a joint loan with the deceased or has guaranteed a loan for them. Debts owed by and indeed owed to the deceased must be cleared before any distribution of the deceased's estate can take place, so the executors of the estate must immediately be informed of any outstanding debts either way.

This question has been answered by Victoria Wilson, a Partner with GHP Legal.

For an appointment visit www.ghplegal.com or contact one of our offices: Oswestry 01691 659194, Chirk 01691 777949, Wrexham 01978 291456, Llangollen 01978 860313. For Personal Injury, Employment and Family matters we offer FREE legal diagnostic clinics every Wednesday at our Oswestry office and every Monday at our Wrexham office, 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal is authorised and regulated by the SRA 51566, and Lexcel Accredited.



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Letters

Swap roadworks for efficient rail service

SURFACE dressing is a cheaper alternative to properly repairing the roads. It is also a dangerous nuisance.

Throughout Shropshire many tons of this detritus is being plastered over the roads. In some cases they close the road while they are doing it and you have to find an alternative route. Other times they manage to do half the road at a time.

They recognise one of the dangers themselves and put up signs declaring "skid risk". Try riding a motorcycle through it and the grave risk will be obvious.

The loose shingle is also a very effective chipping agent to your paintwork and your

windscreen for weeks after the application. They clean up some of it but the rest remains until it is dispersed by the traffic. The lumps and bumps of the road are not repaired. Every imperfection is faithfully reproduced a little higher up. The road is noisier to drive on afterwards. The friction and tyre wear is greater.

Some bright people invented the railways and they networked the country with a set of nice straight routes. The Government decided that the best thing to do was rip that system up so they tasked a chap with the job in 1965. The result was that many communities were no longer served by the

rail network. Since then the population has dramatically risen and cars on the roads have quadrupled.

The result is that journeys often take longer than when you dad took you in the sidecar of his BSA.

What is the answer? The obvious thing is to reinstate the national rail network and make it reliable. Also get someone intelligent to produce the timetables so that the services link up properly at useful times.

Then continue making the roads worse so that people will go by train.

PETER KEEN
Oswestry

We all must remember why the country voted to Brexit

CHRISTOPHER Gill MP is one of the few left in Westminster who talks sense.

He reminded us after Brexit: "June 23 saw the biggest popular vote in British history when 17,410,742 voted to leave the EU."

"They did not vote for re-negotiated terms."

"They voted for complete restoration of our national sovereignty government by laws in Westminster."

"The absolute right to control our own borders."

"The freedom to negotiate our own trading arrangements with countries of our choice."

"They voted for our armed forces to be deployed solely on our orders."

"The administering of justice according to the law *habeas corpus* - the British justice system."

Britain and Europe, the short version of the government's white paper prior to joining the Common Market in 1973, was issued in July 1971 - I still have my copy.

It states clearly on Page 12, "There is no question of Britain losing essential sovereignty."

It is also a fundamental rule in Westminster that no parliament can pass laws that a future Parliament cannot change.

Question - Who handed over those powers to Brussels?

Question - On whose authority?

Question - When are they going to be identified, arrested and charged?

BOB WYDELL
Oswestry

Think about the creations

RECENTLY my wife and I enjoyed a lovely day out at British Ironwork Centre on the A5 near Oswestry. We enjoyed it so much that we went again a few weeks later with a friend who, like us, had never seen anything like it.

The setting is quite unusual with a huge scorpion coming over the roof of the workshops. Inside there are amazing creations including a large stainless steel dragon. To see a field full of life size, lifelike models of elephants, horses, cattle, lions etc. spoke to me of the skill and imagination of those men and women who had created them. But what about the originals? If these models were made with such skill and imagination how much greater the skill, imagination and power of the one who created the originals, not just life like, but alive, with the ability to reproduce themselves, the great God of heaven, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Any explanation of the existing universe and its inhabitants which excludes a creator lacks credulity and can lead to all sorts of strange and unhelpful ideas, not least that we are not answerable to anyone for our actions and can basically do what we like within the confines of the enforceable law of the land. Frightening!

DAVID BURTON
Whitechurch

Experts dug up interesting facts on dyke



We've been digging in our archives again, and come up with this photo of an archaeological excavation on the outskirts of Gobowen on April 16, 1985. Here archaeologist Mr Jon Kane is directing the excavator in the removal of infill from the Wats Dyke ditch. After five months of careful searching at the ancient earthwork Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit had made an exciting last-minute discovery, in which they were able to determine the exact size and shape of the dyke. The site was on the line of proposed major road works.

We need to look to challenge all these injustices

I THINK it's likely that there could be an extreme leftist reaction eventually unless we try to address the inequality in our country.

The problem of greed has been around since the world began.

Much wants more, money means power. It's a basic flaw in human nature that has caused endless misery and war.

What we all need to remember is that we are all really renters.

We don't own that treasured property, one day someone else will have it.

A couple of thousand years ago a young man started a revolution, not by taking up arms but by setting an example.

He told stories about the rich and poor, one man lived luxuriously in his mansion and totally ignored the beggar on the street outside.

The tables were turned when they both died and the beggar went to Heaven and the rich man went to a very hot place.

Jesus taught us to love one another.

RON JONES

St Martins

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

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Letters should be brief and **MUST** include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Phrase now very overused

SURELY the most overused phrase in the English language must be "lessons will be learned".

How many times do we hear this from chief executives in education, NHS, social services, the police, members of parliament, local councils, financial institutions, law enforcement.

It is used by them to justify not taking responsibility for their actions and resigning.

I never want to hear it or read it again.

DAVID ROGERS

Church Eaton

Diversity through education can be good for society

THERE is no doubt that there is a diversity of intelligence.

Some people are academic while others have practical skills, which are just as necessary for a society to function.

The liberal media keep going on about how streaming education would be a bad thing. Yet this country needs people with practical skills more than barristers.

What would we do without carpenters, bricklayers, electricians, plumbers and labourers to build houses?

Lorry and van drivers to deliver goods; shop assistants to serve us in shops and dustbin men/women to empty our bins?

All these people, and many more I have not mentioned, are vital to our nation to grow and succeed.

Grammar schools are needed so those children who are academic can thrive, just as much as children need comprehensive schools to learn practical skills, and they can learn a trade in college after school or not if they choose.

MARK NORWOOD

Whittington

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Hotel set to build further bedrooms

A HOTEL will almost double in size bringing new jobs.

The Premier Inn on the edge of Oswestry has been given permission to add 39 new bedrooms to its hotel giving it 98 in all. The company has not yet announced how many jobs will be created.

Shropshire Council officers who approved the plans, said the hotel is part of the Oswestry Gateway Scheme which will also include a pub, restaurants, employment and leisure uses.

"The extended hotel will generate additional income locally through the increased spending of visitors on goods, services, businesses and attractions in the area," a planning report said. It said that Oswestry town had just three other hotels providing 54 bedrooms. The North Shropshire and Oswestry visitor economy strategy identified increasing visitor stays as a key priority for the tourist economy.

Oswestry Town Council said it was in favour of the extension, saying it would boost the economy.

Care group makes neighbour plea

A WELSH care provider is urging people in Oswestry to take extra care of the elderly after the clocks go back one hour this month.

The clock change takes place on October 30 meaning evenings will get darker earlier, which could affect elderly people.

Peter Angelides, CEO of Abacare, said: "Through visiting our service users we know that many elderly people are affected by the darker evenings and colder weather so we thought it was extremely important to pass on our advice for making sure any older neighbours, friends or relatives that people have are checked on more often."

Mayor praises work of town's caring groups

Report by Emma Lozano

OSWESTRY'S charity groups have been praised by the mayor for the work they do in the community.

As part of his role Mayor Paul Milner has been meeting up with different support groups to learn about their work.

Councillor Milner said he was grateful to those involved in the organisations for "putting other people before themselves".

"Oswestry has many clubs that help people out," he said.

The mayor recently visited the local Men in Sheds branch, a support group for older men which combines sharing skills with socialising.

Councillor Milner also highlighted the Friends of Victoria Centre, a group that provides help for people with learning disabilities as well as other charity groups and clubs such as The Food Bank, Oswestry U3A and Shropshire Housing.

He said: "All these self-help groups and charities are a great support for the community and that volunteers do hard and brilliant work to help others without even thinking about themselves."

One of the mayor's recent engagements was to meet author David Andrews.

Mr Andrews is the author of The Oswestry Round and his next book looks back on his journey to Everest Base Camp. Royalties will go to Cancer Research UK and the Lingen Davies Cancer Fund at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital. Jenny Holderness from Borderland Rotary Club recently ran a stall to support Mr Andrews's venture and raised £200. They were joined by the mayor during the fundraiser.



Oswestry Mayor Paul Milner, Jenny Holderness from Oswestry Borderland Rotary Club and David Andrews

Chance to cast vote in patient prize

A CARING nature, a smile and a hug when it was needed have helped three hospital employees to reach the finals of a competition.

The Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital invited patients to nominate a member of staff who had made a significant impression on them for the hospital's first ever Patients' Choice award. Almost 30 nominations were received for the award with the finalists named as Robin Banerjee, consultant orthopaedic surgeon, Kate Betts, physiotherapy technical instructor and Penny Oak, staff nurse, Clwyd Ward.

Now members of the public are being asked to read the nominations on the hospital website and vote for their winner. The deadline for voting is midnight on Sunday. Mr Banerjee was nominated by Susan Griffiths who had hip replacements in 2010 and 2014. Kate Betts was nominated by Meira Lloyd-Owen who was left a paraplegic after an accident.

James Hunter nominated Penny Oak for the award after an operation which he says possibly saved him from paralysis.

Visit www.rjah.nhs.uk/vote to read the nominations and cast a vote.

Memorial service for loved ones

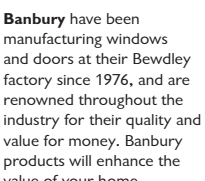
A MEMORIAL service will be held on October 28 at 4pm at Oswestry Methodist Church.

All are welcome to come along and light a candle in memory of a loved one and bring if photograph if they wish. Light refreshments will be served after the service, which will last no longer than one hour.

For more details people can contact the Rev Heather Wilson on 01691 679164.

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Railway station staff and Derwen College students and staff celebrate their awards. Photos: Jamie Ricketts.



Gobowen Railway Station's unusual loo with a view

Awards for station

A VILLAGE railway station with a thriving cafe and one of the most eye-catching public toilets in Britain has won two awards.

Severn Dee Travel, which has a booking office at Gobowen Station, near Oswestry, runs the waiting room at the station and fitted out a small corner with cafe facilities, now run by students from the nearby Derwen College.

The link-up won the community rail awards

category for working with diverse groups while another student project, painting the bland public toilets to resemble the African Savannah, took second place in the loo with a view category. Abi Baker, from the Derwen College, for those with learning disabilities, said the cafe, open between 7.15am and 3pm during term time, provided real work experience for the students.

"It is such a popular placement that we have a waiting list for students who want to work in the cafe," she said.

"We have a wide menu that includes a drink

and homemade cake deal and a meal deal with the sandwich made to order."

Sheila Dee, from Severn Dee Travel, added: "The cafe is a real asset for the station and very well used. Severn Dee Travel does not charge the college, to us the added benefit is that the village and passengers are provided with a cafe, where none existed and added to that the availability of local produce such as jams and preserves that are made at the college. All that is asked of the students is that they keep the waiting room and toilets clean and comfortable."



Teresa Richards, station cafe coordinator, and Harriet Harker from Derwen College, hard at work at the rail station in Gobowen



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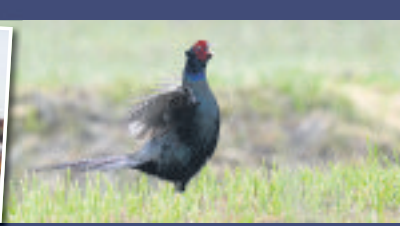
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NEWS IN BRIEF**Youngsters given advice at event**

OVER 5,700 young people received health and welfare advice from a group of organisations that were at the Young People's Village during this year's Royal Welsh Show, it has been revealed.

The Powys Health and Welfare team came into contact with 5,744 young people during the whole week the show took place – a staggering 83 per cent increase in numbers from 2015 when 3,083 visited the team.

It was the eighth year that the welfare team were involved in the village, which saw them hand out six litres of sunscreen and enough bottled water to fill up a swimming pool.

The multi-agency team included Powys County Council services such as the youth service.

Ramblers walk will be in two parts

THE Welshpool Ramblers walk on Sunday will be led by Vic Smith from Llanymynech and will be in two parts.

The first is a 3.5 mile route taking in many of the quarry industry features of the area. A coffee stop will be made at Border View vantage point. The second section, of 2.5 miles, will be along the Montgomery Canal to the Carreghofa Locks and beyond to the Vyrnwy Canal Aqueduct, returning directly to Llanymynech by way of a footpath. Meet at 9am in the car park beside the Welshpool Tourist Centre (OS grid ref SJ225075), from where transport may be available, or alternatively at the start of the walk at the car park behind the Dolphin Public House in Llanymynech (OS Ref: SJ 267 209) for a 9.45am start.

Fashion show will mark Diane's love for clothes

Report by Sally Williams

WHEN fashion expert Diane Ashman was a little girl she would dress up in her mother's clothes.

It sparked a lifelong love of vintage sparkly frocks, bangles and beads and now, aged 72, Diane is looking back over her colourful career and celebrating 45 years in the fashion business – 25 years of them at her shop, Ashman's Antiques, in Welshpool.

To mark the milestone, she will hold a mini fashion show at The Royal Oak Hotel, Welshpool on Saturday from 7pm in aid of the Alzheimer's Society, Cancer Research and the MS Society. Tickets are £7.50 and are available from the shop.

Since opening Ashman's Antiques in Welshpool, she has been bombarded with interest from film, television and musical producers who approach her for authentic clothing through the decades and has welcomed visitors from all around the world.

In 2011, the team behind The Scapegoat asked if Diane could provide various costumes from the 1950s for a film starring Matthew Rhys set in 1952, for the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.

She said: "My love of clothes goes back to when I was seven or eight-years-old and dressing up in my mum's clothes."

"She was a dancer and a singer and although she didn't have many clothes, the ones she did have were lovely as they were presents to her from Ivor Novello – the Welsh composer/actor for her work as a ladies' maid."



Diane Ashman gets ready for her fashion show this weekend at The Royal Oak Hotel in Welshpool

Police give reassurances over driving

POLICE chiefs have said officers were committed to setting an example to motorists after figures showed several cars belonging to forces covering the region were written off in crashes.

Both West Mercia and Dyfed-Powys Police have confirmed their vehicles are equipped with camera and telematic systems in order to monitor vehicle activity.

It comes after it was revealed 12 vehicles belonging to the West Mercia force and one for Dyfed-Powys were written off in crashes last year.

Temporary Assistant Chief Constable Stephen Cullen of West Mercia Police said: "Officers are expected to set the example to the public and adhere to the law and promote road safety."

"When a collision does take place the circumstances are reviewed by a supervisor and the officers driving history is examined. If considered appropriate the driver will undertake a refresher before resuming normal duties."

Sharon Reynolds, spokeswoman for Dyfed-Powys Police, said that 91 per cent of the force's vehicles have fitted telematics which monitors the vehicle activity.

Event organiser gives his thanks

ORGANISER of the recent Welshpool 1940s Weekend, Alan Crowe, has thanked everyone who helped make the event such a success.

Mr Crowe said he hoped the potential of the event had been demonstrated and that more people would support the event next year.

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Sports roadshow proves successful

A SPORTS roadshow held in Shropshire for the first time has been declared a huge success.

Organisers of the Inclusive Sport and Activity Roadshow are planning to make it an annual event as a result.

More than 80 sports and activities were offered by over 35 sports clubs and groups during the duration of the roadshow. Oswestry, Telford, Shrewsbury, Market Drayton, Much Wenlock, Church Stretton, Newport, Pontesbury, Broseley, Bishop's Castle, and Shifnal were among the towns and villages that took part.

The roadshow was organised by the Inclusively Fit Project, in partnership with Energize, the county sports partnership for Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin. Jessica Lightwood, Shropshire inclusion officer at Energize, said it had been so successful, that they hoped to repeat it next year. "We're delighted at the way so many clubs and community groups got behind the concept of the roadshow, right across the county," she said.

Pub to host wild reading session

A WILD reading session will be held on Apple Day in Oswestry this weekend.

The event takes place on Saturday in The Bailey Head pub on Bailey Head Oswestry at 1pm to 2.30pm. Everyone is welcome. In order to keep the group small, people should book their place with the library service on (01743) 250360.

Linda Rix from Oswestry Library explained the wild reading concept. She said: "Here in Oswestry smallish groups of about 10 or 12 people get together, the group leader selects a short story or an extract from a novel and copies are brought along for everyone. The story is then read aloud, initially by the group leader although others may read out if they want to, there is however no obligation to speak at all."

Businessman Clive tells of his big health battle

Report by Sue Austin

WHEN businessman Clive Knowles began suffering from double vision, he knew something was seriously wrong.

But he was not prepared for the devastating news doctors had to give him – that he had such acute blood cancer that he should put his affairs in order and prepare for the worst.

It was six months ago that the owner of the British Ironwork Centre, near Oswestry, discovered the reason for the night sweats and other symptoms that he had put down to stress – lymphoma. But against the odds and thanks to intensive chemotherapy and months in hospital he has survived and with a new outlook on life.

Next month Clive will find out if the weeks of treatment were successful and he admits that he has a long way to go in his fight to regain his health.

In his darkest days, his body was wracked with pain and exhaustion from his treatment and he feared he would not pull through. "I wanted to be given some hope, and no-one would give me that hope," he said. Even when he came out of hospital he realised he had a long way to go before he was fully recovered.

He had already handed over the reins of the day-to-day management of the British Ironwork Centre to his children and is enjoying his new role organising other projects.

Son Ben, 30, and daughter Sophia, 28, are now at the helm of the tourist attraction.

His children's hard work is a source of great pride for Clive and wife, Tracy. "I'm incredibly grateful to my wife and family for the way they have helped them and have taken over the company. I need to stay away from the pressure to give me the best chance of recovery."



Clive Knowles getting 'back on the bike' at the British Ironwork Centre with son Ben and daughter Sophia

Mystery still remains over body search

MYSTERY still surrounds a police search for an unidentified body on the Shropshire border.

North Wales Police this week confirmed there was no update following the search for an unidentified body, which launched in May.

A search was made of a smallholding at Henlle near Gobowen and divers searched the nearby Llangollen Canal during a month-long operation. Forestry near Bwlchgwyn, Wrexham was also searched.

In July the force said that the search, which involved specialist "cadaver" police dogs, police search team specialists and forensic experts, was suspended, with detectives hoping further information from the public could assist them in identifying a more specific location in the large expanse of forestry. At the time officers who had been part of the search operation said they wanted to hear from anyone who knows a Nathan or Michael from the Wrexham area who has not been seen for five years.

Anyone who may have information should contact North Wales Police on 101 or via Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Tributes paid to ex-club member

TRIBUTES have been paid to a former member of Trefonen Garden Club who died last week.

Royce Sullivan was described by club members as "a cheerful, affable man who always had a twinkle in his eye and something nice to say". Mr Sullivan and his wife Elaine moved away about six years ago to live at Rhos-on-Sea. They were long standing members of the garden club and Mrs Sullivan was a committee member. The funeral will be a private family affair though donations can be made to St David's Hospice, Llandudno.

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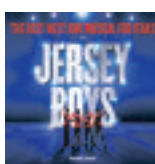
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Time to prepare property for the cold winter months

Commercial feature

Winter is on its way and with it comes a number of risks to rental properties which can lead to costly problems for landlords.

The good news is most of these are preventable.

Experts say if you carry out a few basic checks and take any necessary action now – before the cold weather hits – you and your tenant are likely to enjoy a safe, cosy and disaster-free winter. Now is the time to make sure the heating system is working as it should so there are no nasty surprises when it gets really cold. Aim to have the boiler serviced annually to keep it in good working order throughout the year. Check all external pipes for any signs of leaks, breaks or blockages. Serious problems can occur when blocked or leaking pipes freeze during the winter, then expand and burst. Make sure they are properly secured to the walls and check the brickwork for cracks which could let water in. If there is an open fire make sure the chimney has been swept and don't forget to provide a suitable fireguard. Your property should be adequately insulated and any obvious draught points identified and dealt with. Fit draught excluders to any doors and windows that need it.

Tenants need to be made aware of the simple steps they can take



Many of the problems associated with cold weather can be avoided

to protect your property from unnecessary damage during the winter. Don't assume that they already know how to deal with the cold weather as many won't, or may not think about it. Ask them to keep background heating on at a level to avoid extremes of temperature. If they go away during the winter they should leave the heating on a setting to maintain a constant temperature of between

eight and ten degrees Celsius so the pipes don't freeze. Condensation is a common problem. The simplest and most effective way of preventing condensation is to make sure there is adequate ventilation and heating.

Extractor fans in the kitchen and bathroom will help as will telling your tenants how to minimise condensation, such as opening windows.

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Sight organisation in members plea

A GROUP which helps those who have lost their sight is appealing for new members.

Shropshire Rural Communities Charity Sight Loss Opportunity Groups for registered blind or visually impaired people meets regularly in Shrewsbury, Oswestry and Ludlow.

The groups offer interesting and adventurous activities to encourage people who have lost their sight ways to keep active, stay confident, meet and make new friends and have some fun, according to organisers. The Shrewsbury group meets at the Roy Fletcher Centre, Cross Hill, from 2pm to 4pm on the fourth Monday of the month while the Oswestry group meets at Oswestry Library, from 10am until noon on the first Wednesday of the month.

Contact (01743) 342163 for details.

Roald Dahl theme of Halloween treat

A ROALD Dahl-themed Halloween adventure will be brought to a town during half term.

Every child will get to carve a pumpkin and families can explore the scarier creatures of the famous writer with creepy craft activities at the event on October 25 at Llanfyllin Youth and Community Centre.

Nina Wehling of Arts Connection, which is organising the event, said: "The fun will include an interactive storytelling session with Milly Jackdaw, entitled Troll Tales Told To Dahl."

"Roald Dahl spent his childhood summer holidays with his family in Norway, where his grandmother told him folktales populated with one-eyed trolls, friendly giants and child-eating witches."

Families can sign up for a two-and-a-half hour session starting either at 10am, noon or 2pm at a cost of £3 per person. To find out more contact Arts Connection on (01691) 648929.

Volunteers warned not to clean toilets near beauty spot

VOLUNTEERS who have been cleaning public toilets to keep them open for tourists to use have been warned to stop by council chiefs who have boarded them up.

Gina Kooijman Facey says that she and her brother Phillip Facey have for the past year been cleaning the public toilets at Pistyll Rhaeadr – where water cascades more than 230 feet in three stages near Llanrhaeadr-ym-Mochnant.

Powys County Council decided to close them as a cost cutting measure because they were not up to standard.

She said: "Two weeks ago we found that the toilets had been completely boarded up. This has been a long-standing issue with Powys County Council, Wynnstay PLC whose estate the toilets are on, and us, as we run the car park."

"We hear all the complaints from tourists – including pregnant women and disabled people – arriving from all over the UK and the world who find they are unable to have basic toilet facilities that they would elsewhere."

"When the toilets were closed last year by the council with padlocks without any notification, people complained and refused to pay for parking."

"So, Phillip reopened them while negotiations were taking place behind the scenes to get a deal to suit all parties, the date we were given was September 30 – but nothing happened."

"Phillip has bought new toilet seats and cleaned them himself each morning – they were not the best we admit – but now that the toilets have been padlocked and no-one can get in, people are going to the toilet behind the buildings where there are sanitary towels too."

"It is an unacceptable health hazard near what is supposed to be one of the wonders of Wales."



Gina Kooijman Facey outside the closed toilet block at the Powys tourist attraction

But Councillor John Brunt, Powys cabinet member for highways, said: "We continue to receive reports about the poor condition of these toilets – despite them being closed back in October 2015."

"A local business has agreed to take on the operation of the toilets and a financial support package has been negotiated with them."

"However, the toilets are located on land owned by a third-party. Although

they have agreed with the transfer terms, this has yet to be signed off, however, we expect this to be done in the near future. Although we continued to run the toilets for an extended period, we eventually closed them."

"Since the toilets were closed and secured, we have received numerous reports of the toilets being used by visitors to the area and that were in a poor condition. Unlawful entry into the toilets has occurred on numerous

occasions and as they are no longer being cleaned by the council, the condition has deteriorated quickly."

"We have not been approached by anyone wanting to maintain the toilets on a voluntary basis. We have re-secured the toilets to prevent unauthorised access happening again. We will continue to get the third-party landowner to complete the agreement with us and the local business. In the meantime, the toilets will remain closed."

Safety advice on drones is given by RAF

IT is only a matter of time before a drone causes a major accident involving an aircraft over Shropshire, an RAF safety officer has warned.

It comes as there have been six reports of drones causing a potential risk to aircraft associated with RAF Shawbury this year, including in places such as Nesscliffe near Oswestry and in Telford.

The legal limit for drones is 400 feet, but they have been spotted in Shropshire flying at 2,000 and 1,500 feet.

Squadron Leader Gary James, Station Flight Safety Officer at RAF Shawbury, said he is not against the ideas of drones, but stressed the need to use them safely.

"They are getting cheaper and cheaper and more people are having them so the risk has increased," he said. "It is only a matter of time before something happens."

"Last year it was more hearsay, but this we have had actual sightings from our helicopters."

"There has been one flying at 2,000 feet over Telford, which is illegal and stupid."

One of the problems is that the law is difficult to enforce as its hard catching people in the act. But police have been given guidance."

Squadron Leader James, who owns his own drone, admits they do have their uses. "They are used for searching for missing people, looking at fire damage to properties and by estate agents for aerial shots of properties. One guy I know films the fairways at golf courses," he said.

"It is not that people are being malicious with them. A lot of people just see them as a toy that can fly."

To help spread the message of the danger of drones to aircraft, Squadron Leader James has created a leaflet, which is available for the public and contains a map showing where airspace activity takes place in the county. He also said visits to schools and council meetings are among the initiatives he is looking at in the future.

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Eddie is loving his teaching life

Report by Sue Austin

A SIX-MONTH stint teaching English to children in China turned into a way of life for Eddie Knox.

It is now three years since the 36-year-old from Nesscliffe near Oswestry travelled halfway across the world to give teaching a try.

He enjoys his new life so much he has invested in the school and is urging graduates looking for some time out before beginning their careers to think about doing something similar to what he did. Recently he even became a 'poster boy' in an advert for his school, appearing on giant billboards in the city where he lives.

Eddie teaches English to children between the ages of six and 16 at a private weekend school in Lengshuijiang. Pupils attend the school on top of their own education in China to improve their language skills. He said: "I have no assistant in my classes, everything is conducted in English. The people who send their children to my school are from all sorts of backgrounds – schooling and exams are very important in China."

"Every parent or grandparent expects their child prodigies to be the next big thing, therefore they are willing to pay anything to give them the best opportunities."

He said his school had a great reputation and while it taught maths and Chinese too, he headed up the English department.

Eddie said: "We are looking to add more foreign teachers to our staff. It is a job that is ideal for new graduates who want to travel before settling to a career in Britain."

"I've recently had a student from Beijing who has a masters degree in classical music come to me for a month



Teacher Eddie Knox surrounded by his Chinese pupils who treat him like a celebrity when they spot him in the street

to improve her English. Another family has remained in Lengshuijiang even though the father is now working as an engineer in Shenzhen. I have taught their 12-year-old daughter for two years and they now wants me to teach their four-year-old son – even

though Shenzhen is one of the richest cities in China."

He added: "When you walk down the road and everyone knows your name and you walk into a Chinese bar and they treat you like a celebrity it is hard not to like the place."

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Reassurances are given on new Aldi store

COUNCIL bosses are reassuring Welshpool residents that ongoing work to build the town's new Aldi store – which is expected to create up to 40 jobs – will have minimal impact on the canal wharf that surrounds it.

Locals complained after a line of trees which separates the development from the Montgomeryshire Canal was removed.

But Welshpool Town Council and Powys County Council planners are urging residents to be patient and to wait until they see the completed development, the plans of which, mentioned that the trees would be removed at the start of the works. Welshpool Town Council clerk Robert Robinson said: "There were no surprises here, the planning application mentioned that a line of trees – that were nothing special – needed to be removed and replaced with an instant hedge that would appear on completion of the building."

"In the meantime there will be temporary safety fencing in place.

"None of my councillors have complained and the Powys planners seem happy. The temporary fencing is not subject to control by the Local Planning Authority."

Earlier this year, Aldi held a public exhibition in the town for residents to meet the project team, find out more about the proposal and provide feedback on the proposals.

The proposed store would also include 90 customer car parking spaces on site. Aldi said the scheme would generate additional employment through construction and supply-chain opportunities.

A spokesman for Aldi previously said the store would complement other traders rather than compete with them.

Law firm staff feature in leading expert guide

Report by Naomi Penrose

A LAW firm in Oswestry is celebrating after 16 of its lawyers were recommended in a leading independent guide of the country's top legal professionals.

The Legal 500 UK is the leading independent guide to law firms across the country and and guide ranks the best legal professionals in specialist areas of law based on independent research and interviews with solicitors and clients.

Lanyon Bowdler is recommended in 14 practice areas in the most recent guide including recognition for its sector specialisms in agriculture and education, its specialist business services including corporate and commercial, dispute resolution, employment and property, as well as top tier rankings for its specialist clinical negligence and personal injury teams.

Brian Evans, managing partner, said: "We view independent endorsement as critical in helping clients to place their trust in us to look after their legal needs, and to receive this level of recognition, not just locally but across the West Midlands, is testament to the experience, knowledge and skill of our lawyers and their application of that for the benefit of clients."

"We were pleased to have 11 of our solicitors named in the Legal 500 last year, so to have 16 included in the list this year is a great indication that we are continuing to develop our expertise to suit clients' needs."

New chapter starts for advice company



Founding Partner the late John Hughes with the JNH Wealth Management team in 2015

JNH Wealth Management Limited is the new face of JN Hughes Financial Services LLP.

After founding partner, John Hughes, sadly passed away after a long-term battle with cancer in July this year, the company has restructured; bringing all of the existing full time staff members into the ownership of the business. The company is a long-established family-run independent financial advice firm combining traditional family values with modern investment philosophy, and makes use of the latest available technology for efficient client and portfolio management.

The young and dynamic team of four home-grown ad-

visers, based out of Babbinswood, near Oswestry, provide holistic, impartial advice on pensions, investments and insurance products, as well as tax and estate planning.

Earlier this year, the firm was granted permissions to provide specialist pension advice to Defined Benefit or Final Salary scheme members, making JNH Wealth Management one of a select few in a wide radius that can transfer out members of such schemes, if appropriate.

The team strive to build upon the fantastic foundations that had been laid under John Hughes' leadership and will continue to operate under the same guiding principles that have brought success for nearly four decades.

Calls made for repair of ATM machine

CALLS have been made for a village's only cashpoint to be returned to working order after it was vandalised earlier this year.

The machine in Glyn Ceiriog near Oswestry has been out of order since vandals struck at the start of the year.

Clwyd South MP Susan Elan Jones and Ken Skates AM have contacted HSBC and Cash Zone, the company which operates the ATM in the village, demanding for assurances that the cashpoint will be returned to working order.

Ms Jones said: "This has been going on for months now, which is far too long for a rural community such as this. The nearest cash machine is currently Chirk or Llangollen, which is extremely inconvenient for elderly residents and those without transport."

"We've asked for answers on behalf of the people of Glyn Ceiriog, and will report back via the community council as soon as we have any news."

The calls come following concerns raised by the community council.

Mr Skates said: "Susan and I have both asked for confirmation in writing that this issue won't be ignored and also for a commitment from Cash Zone that it has no plans to remove or relocate the ATM, which is the only one for miles around."

Funding is announced

TRANSPORT Secretary Chris Grayling MP has announced a £12 million boost for the Midlands economy.

He said the money would fund major transport initiatives.

Midlands Connect, a partnership between local authorities and enterprise, will now have funding guaranteed for the next three years.

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freewillsmoth.org.uk

Fashion show to help cancer centre

A FASHION show is taking place later this month in aid of a Shropshire hospital's Bone Cancer Centre Appeal.

The event, taking place on October 26 at Weston Rhyn Institute, will raise funds towards Oswestry's Orthopaedic Hospital's appeal.

The new £15.1 million major theatre and ward development at the hospital includes a state-of-the-art inpatient and outpatient facilities for bone tumour patients.

At the event, models will show off the latest items in high street shop Bon Marche.

The event will start at 7pm. Tickets cost £5 to include a free glass of wine.

There's also a host of raffle prizes to be won.

To book tickets contact organiser Angela Bright on (01691) 770016.

Council retrieves its Icelandic money

A COUNTY council has finally recovered all the money it lost in the Icelandic banks crash seven years ago.

Powys County Council had invested £4 million in two separate banks Glitnir and Landsbanki. Seven other councils, three universities and three former police authorities had between them invested £75 million.

The council has revealed that it has finally recovered £4,077,799, which includes interest payments and legal costs. A report to the council's cabinet says that Powys first recovered the Landsbanki money and only more recently was able to get back the Glitnir investment.

It says that if the council had stepped in early to retrieve money through a sale to Deutsche bank it could have lost £179,000. Instead Powys waited until an auction in June this year in which the money it retrieved was kept in Euros. Last month the council decided to chance the euros to sterling.

Talented chef Jack to show off his skills at food festival

A TALENTED young chef who has cooked for big names such as pop star Morrissey and the late Wales football manager Gary Speed will be sharing his secrets at a food festival.

Jack Hatley, the head chef at Gale's of Llangollen, will be one of the star attractions at the Hamper Llangollen, one of the highlights of the UK's culinary calendar.

He will demonstrate his butchery skills at the two-day festival which will see thousands of foodies flocking to the world famous Denbighshire tourist town on Saturday and Sunday.

Jack who lives in Oswestry also teaches regularly at Upstairs Downstairs, a cook shop in Oswestry which runs cookery lessons. Joining him on the demonstration stage to add spicy flavour to the meat he prepares will be his friend and culinary colleague Yossi Gliksmen who runs a thriving cookery school at his cook shop in Oswestry town centre.

It was during the year or so that 31-year-old Jack spent as demi chef de partie in the kitchens of the legendary Chester Grosvenor that he cooked for some of the five star hotel's celebrity guests. He recalled: "I remember preparing dishes for people like The Smiths singer Morrissey and the golfer Nick Faldo, which was a thrill for me. Later I moved on to become chef de partie at another large restaurant in Chester where I cooked for the late Wales manager Gary Speed on one occasion.

"He was a fantastic person who not only bought a bottle of wine for myself and my colleagues in the kitchen to say thanks for the meal but also stayed to have a drink with us. That was really memorable for us all, especially our head chef who was a very



Jack Hatley, chef at Gales in Llangollen, lives in Oswestry and will be a star attraction at this weekend's Hamper Llangollen food festival

big Wales fan." Jack, who is originally from Norfolk, moved to Oswestry, where he still lives, with his parents when he was eight years old. He attended the Marches School in town and later moved on to study for his A

Levels at Shrewsbury Sixth Form College. "While I was doing my A Levels I also worked part-time as a kitchen porter in the Queen's Head pub in my village," he said. "I didn't want to go on to university and as I really enjoyed

the kitchen environment I decided that was what I really wanted to do. I got a Modern Apprenticeship at the Brooks Round the Corner restaurant in Oswestry and started there as an apprentice chef."

Residents to have say on area changes

PEOPLE will be able to have their say on changes to constituency boundaries at a two-day public hearing, it has been revealed.

The hearing will take place in Shrewsbury as part of consultation into proposals unveiled last month by the Boundary Commission to reorganise parliamentary constituencies – with significant changes to a number of local seats.

It will be held in the Darwin Suite of the town's Prince Rupert Hotel on November 7 and 8. People attending the hearing will be able to tell assistant commissioners what they think of the changes.

Under the proposals Ludlow and Leominster will be combined into a new parliamentary constituency, Bridgnorth will merge with Wellington and The Wrekin, and the existing Telford and Shrewsbury constituencies will become slightly larger.

The biggest alteration came with the changes across the border in Montgomeryshire, which will be split in two. The northern half of the constituency, including Welshpool, will be merged with Clwyd South to form a new South Clwyd and North Montgomeryshire constituency. The south of the constituency, including Newtown, will become part of the Brecon and Radnor seat, which will be renamed Brecon, Radnor and Montgomery. North Shropshire, currently held by Owen Paterson, is the only local constituency which would remain unchanged if the plans are approved.

Announcing the changes last month, Sam Hartley, secretary to the commission, urged people to make their feelings known on proposals. He said: "These proposals mark the first time people get to see what the new map of Parliamentary constituencies might look like. But they are just the commission's initial thoughts – during the next 12 weeks we want people to take a look and tell us what they like and don't like about our proposals."

Final plans will be put forward for ratification in October 2018.

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Top honours for nursing lecturers

Report by Naomi Penrose

TWO university lecturers have been awarded one of the nursing industry's most prestigious accolades for their work.

Chris O'Grady, from Oswestry, and Alison Williams, from Wrexham, lecturers at Glyndwr University in Wrexham, will formally be honoured with the title of Queen's Nurse at a ceremony in November.

The duo, who both joined the university in 2003 and represent the School of Social and Life Sciences, will travel to London for the event, hosted by the Queen's Nursing Institute.

Ms O'Grady, programme leader for MSc Health Sciences, who has more than 35 years' experience in nursing, said she was "incredibly proud" to receive the title.

"I'm still as passionate about nursing, training and quality as I was at the beginning of my career, and it makes me incredibly proud to be recognised in this way," she said.

"It is a privilege to go and visit people in their own homes and care and support them, which is what both Alison and I train students to do having done it ourselves, so it's a real honour for us to be picking up this title together."

Ms Williams, programme leader for district nursing, said for years they had shown commitment to high standards of human care and excellence in nursing.

"We want to encourage students to go for this title as well, and we could not realistically do that if we've never held it ourselves," she said.

Paying tribute to Chris and Alison, Dr Crystal Oldman, chief executive of



Chris O'Grady, from Oswestry, and Alison Williams will formally be honoured with the title of Queen's Nurse at a ceremony in November

the QNI, said: "Community nurses are expert professionals who make a vital contribution to patient health and wellbeing every day.

"As a national charity the QNI can share innovation and best practice, supporting nurses to deliver excellent

healthcare to patients in local communities." The title of Queen's Nurse is open to community nurses with more than three years' experience. Managers and patients provide feedback about applicants, which is assessed along with their application.

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Cooking expert gives hints on what makes a great curry

Commercial feature

With National Curry Week warming our way into winter this week, Tamarind chef Hari Ghotra gives hints on simple Indian cooking.

"Indian cooking is not about chucking in the chilli and seeing how hot you can get it, it's about the layering of flavours," says Hari Ghotra.

A self-taught home cook and soon-to-be executive chef at the Soho sister restaurant of Mayfair's Michelin-starred Tamarind, Ghotra is passionate about Indian food.

"It's healthy, wholesome, really flavoursome and you can cook it at home quite easily," she says.

The 40-year-old is a shining example of how hard work and tenacity can make your dreams come true. She studied biology and worked as a microbiologist for Unilever, then took a degree in marketing and worked for Tesco, until her husband, seeing how much she enjoyed teaching her cookery classes, bought her the Hari Ghotra domain name, designed a logo and had business cards made for her one Christmas. Her website (www.harighotra.co.uk), full of recipes and videos of Ghotra revealing how to



Self-taught home cook Hari Ghotra in her kitchen

make them, soon caught the attention of the Tamarind Collection and she's spent the last 18 months training at the Mayfair restaurant under chef Peter Joseph. Ghotra learned to love cooking and Indian food by "following my mum around the kitchen" at their home in Wolverhampton: "I come from a very working class family, so it's very basic food, authentically cooked, the way my

mum had been taught by my grandma. It instilled a real love of ingredients in me – mum would always make me go to the garden to pick mint in the rain, or I'd make the dough for the rotis.

"I absolutely hated it, but every day we had to do that and my mum would make about 30 to 40 chapatis that everyone would sit and eat."



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Including Christmas Crackers,
festive table decorations £17.95
2016 FESTIVE MENU B

CHOICE OF STARTERS
Homemade Winter Vegetable Soup served with Crusty Bread

Classic Prawn Cocktail
Homemade Chicken Liver Pate, Red Onion Marmalade served with Toast

CHOICE OF MAIN COURSE

Traditional Roast Turkey served with Pigs in Blankets, Seasonal stuffing and Cranberry Sauce
Pork Tenderloin, Rolled with Date & Armagnac Farce, wrapped with Serrano ham, Roasted
Shallot Jus, Sweet & Sour Red Cabbage with Apple & Roast Chestnut
Roast Beef with Yorkshire Pudding seasonal Vegetables and Roast Potatoes
Grilled Salmon, Roasted Cauliflower & Capers, White Bean & Truffle Oil Purée, Galette
Potatoes, Parsley Beurre Blanc dressing
Nut Roast served with a Mushroom and White Wine Cream Sauce, seasonal Vegetables

CHOICE OF DESSERTS

Christmas Pudding served with Brandy Sauce
Lemon Posset with Homemade Short Biscuits
Italian Style Caramelised Clementine & Armaretti Trifle
Dark Chocolate Marquise & Brandy Snap Horn of Plenty with Winter Berries
Tea or Coffee served with a Mince Pie

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**Christmas lunch
at The Hall**
Sunday December 18,
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Enjoy a fabulous festive
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Amanda Woof on her stall in Oswestry



Mary Huxley on her stall making butter with Michael Muir



Happy customers Sue and Derek Barlow

Market still popular



Butcher Jamie Ward with his meat products



Shoppers in and around Oswestry are keen to support local markets. Photos: Alan Evans.



On their stall are Margaret Edwards and Julia Morris



The market is popular with shoppers



Mary Huxley on her stall making butter

RODNEY Stokes shakes his head apologetically.

"Sorry, it's all gone," he says. "I will remember to make more next time."

It seems everybody in Oswestry wants some of his speciality sausage, but he has sold out entirely. And it has only just gone 11am.

"It is very popular," says the farmer-turned-butcher from Ellesmere.

"I made twice as much as I normally do, and I have already sold out."

"It is made to a special secret recipe that George Hayward gave to me, I'm the only one to have a proper copy of that, it is a closely guarded secret."

Rodney, who runs his butchery business from Mereside Farm in Ellesmere, is one of several stallholders on Oswestry's monthly artisan market.

Farmers' markets are big business these days. Back in the 1970s and 80s they were practically extinct, as Britain embraced the

Report by Mark Andrews

convenience of supermarket shopping, and freezers and microwave ovens were the big status symbols of every upwardly mobile household.

But markets such as the one in Oswestry are now commonplace in both rural and urban areas alike, as even fashionable city-dwellers see the benefits of wholesome food which can be traced back to a local farm.

"Back in the 70s people didn't want to know about their food," says Rodney, now 62.

"But now we find a lot of people want to know where food has come from."

"I do the markets at Whitchurch on the first Saturday of the month, at Ellesmere every Thursday, I do Shrewsbury and I do Oswestry. At the moment that's all I have time for."

He says the sausages always do well at Oswestry, as people come from the outlying rural areas and stock up with them in large quantities.

"It's a very traditional recipe going back many years," he says.

As well as the sausage, he is also selling hand-made pork pies.

A short distance up the road, outside the Guildhall in Bailey Head, is Mary Huxley.

Known to her customers as Mary From The Dairy, she is one of the best known characters on the market. Mesmerised youngsters stare in astonishment as she churns the milk in to butter, and then pats it into her own trademark designs using two pieces of wood known as scotch hands.

Mary, 78, keeps Rowe Farm at Dorrington, near Shrewsbury, and worked in farming since childhood.

"I used to walk the cows to the market in Shrewsbury before I went to school in the morning," she says.

"At the time we thought it was great fun, we must have been mad. We never got paid, but I bet my dad did."

She also sells eggs from free range hens

she keeps on the farm. "Because they are free range eggs, they have got a lovely coloured yolk, especially if they are from young hens."

She explains to a customer how the butter is lighter this time of year because there is less grass about for the cows to eat.

Sue and Derek Barlow, who are regular visitors to farmers' markets around the county, say her butter is unique in its flavour, unlike anything that can be bought anywhere else.

"This is the very best," says Sue who is 65.

"We come from Shrewsbury, we have tried farm butter all over, but it's just so nice."

"I will buy butter from the supermarket for cooking with, but I wouldn't eat it on my bread."

"This butter is so good that we don't put any jam or marmalade on our toast, we just enjoy the taste of the butter."

Derek who is 70, adds: "We support the local farmers as much as we can because we're both from the countryside, we both grew up around farming."

Butcher Jamie Ward is one of the founding members of the Oswestry farmers' market, now rebranded as the artisan market, and says he has only missed one day since it was launched in 1999.

"I used to be a farmer, but gave it up in the late 1990s because the prices weren't very good," he says.

"My family had been farming forever, at least 250 years, it was very hard giving it up."

Jamie, who is 56, only sells meat from local farms, and says that the ability to trace it back to a specific location is very important to customers.

"I get most of my beef from Cross Lane Farm, just outside Oswestry," he says.

Amanda Woof, who keeps the Aunty Mo's stall on the market selling home-made sausage rolls and scotch eggs, says she sources all her meat from either Jamie Ward or Rodney Stokes.

"I make them all at Treflach Farm, where I rent a unit," says Amanda.

Spacious period country residence is full of character

Pendalog Farm at Llanfyllin, is a stunningly beautiful spacious country residence which dates back to the 18th century.

Having undergone substantial modification which was completed in 2000 and having 3.8 acres of gardens and grounds, it is for sale through Town & Country at £619,750.

It lies in a peaceful rural situation and includes hill pasture and woodland. A large detached outbuilding provides useful office space and workshop facilities. The spacious accommodation briefly comprises an entrance porch, utility, WC, a spacious kitchen/breakfast room, a dining room, a sitting room, an extremely spacious living room, a study, first floor landing, a master bedroom with a vaulted ceiling, an en-suite, two further bedrooms and a large family bathroom with two baths. Outside the driveway provides extensive parking and there is also a garage.

With exposed wall timbers and exposed brickwork, the dining room has partial parquet wood flooring and a fitted carpet, spotlights, stairs to the first floor, a window with an oak sill and an ornate carved wooden storage cupboard.

A light and airy room, the sitting room has patio doors to the side and rear, delightful views over the gardens and pasture and a remote controlled double awning covering the full width and depth of a decked patio and balcony.

Having a feature inglenook fireplace with an oak beam over and a cast iron Clearview stove and slate hearth and exposed brickwork, the spacious living room has an under stairs bar area, exposed wall timbers, brickwork, ceiling beams and spotlights and delightful views over the rear garden and pasture. Currently used as a sewing room, the study has exposed ceiling beams, brickwork and a window with an oak sill. Upstairs is a first floor gallery landing with exposed beams, an amazing master bedroom with a vaulted ceiling, exposed beams, timbers and brickwork, two built-in wardrobes and an en suite. Bedrooms two and three have a vaulted ceiling and exposed beams, with bedroom three also having a built-in cupboard.

KEY FEATURES

Spacious country residence

Dating from 18th century

Modified in 2000

3.8 acres of gardens

Peaceful location

LLANFYLLIN

£619,750



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Property comes with annexe with two bedrooms

OSWESTRY
£314,995

The sale of 8 Ardmillan Close, Oswestry offers the rare chance to buy a three-bedroomed detached house with a self-contained two-bedroomed annexe, within walking distance of the town centre.

It is for sale through Bowen Son & Watson at £314,995. The main property has an entrance lobby, an entrance hall, a lounge, a dining room, a kitchen, a rear hall, a utility room and WC, whilst on the first floor there are three double bedrooms, a bathroom and a separate shower room. The annexe accommodation includes a living room, a kitchen, two bedrooms and a bathroom.

Both are warmed by gas central heating and there is double glazing throughout. Outside there is ample off road parking and a garage and gardens. In more detail the entrance lobby has tiled flooring, the entrance hall has stairs off to the first floor and



an under-stairs storage area. The lounge has a bay window overlooking the front, a feature gas fireplace and a picture rail.

The dining room has an open fireplace with a stone-effect surround and hearth and a picture rail.

The fully fitted kitchen has a range of matching base units and eye level wall cupboards with a marble-effect worktop over. There is space for a gas cooker with a stainless steel extractor fan over, an integrated dishwasher and an integrated fridge.

The room also has tiling to the walls and floor and a door to a rear hallway, a utility room and a cloakroom. Off the first floor landing is a door to the annexe. The master bedroom has extensive wardrobes, while bedroom two has a picture rail and overlooks the front. Bedroom three overlooks the side of the property.

Contact Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367.



Spacious town house is sited in quiet position near amenities

OSWESTRY
£164,950 >>>

A spacious town house with off-street parking, 24 Beresford Gardens in Oswestry is located in a quiet position within walking distance of the town centre.

It is on the market through JJ Dell&Co with a guide price of £164,950 and there is no chain. The property benefits from gas fired central heating and there is an entrance hall, cloakroom, living room, kitchen, bathroom, two bedrooms, front garden and two parking spaces. The property occupies a convenient position within the town only a few minutes walking distance into the town's shopping centre. The home is an end-terraced house traditionally constructed of brick under a slated roof.

The accommodation has the benefit of recently recovered roof, gas fired central heating and pvc double glazing.

For more information about the property contact JJ Dell&Co on 01691 653437 and 680212.



Superb cottage with balcony is in beautiful location on edge of forest

LLANGADFAN
£175,000 <<<

Bliss Cottage, 4 Hendre, Llangadfan, is a delightfully charming two-bedroomed semi-detached cottage in a beautiful location on the edge of Dyfnant Forest.

Having a balcony, separate lounge and dining room, kitchen and wet room, it is for sale through Morris Marshall & Poole at £175,000.

A number of external items may be available by separate negotiation including a wood fired hot tub, an attractive insulated "Hobbit House" with wood stove, a large timber shed and a timber potting shed/greenhouse.

From the paved patio the gardens lead across the front of the house with a raised lawn in a sunny position with good views. A pathway then leads to large side gardens with woodland beyond. The large timber deck seating area to the top corner gives further fine views and there is a stream-fed pond and a second still pond.

Contact Morris Marshall & Poole on 01691 679595.



TOWN & COUNTRY

Tel :01691 679631

LETTINGS

- Llanfyllin - One bedroom Ground Flat - £295 pcm
- Llanfyllin - One bedroom first floor flat - £295 pcm
- Oswestry - One bedroom apartment - £450 pcm
- Oswestry - Two bedroom mid terrace - £450 pcm
- Weston Rhyn - Two bedroom flat - £325 pcm
- Oswestry - Three Bed Town house -
- Oswestry - Two Bedroom Detached House - £595 pcm
- Pant - Three Bedroom End Terrace - £530 pcm
- Pontfadog - Two Bedroom Barn Conversion - £500 pcm
- Pontfadog - Two Bedroom Barn Conversion - £500 pcm
- Oswestry - Two Bedroom Mid terrace - £525 pcm
- Oswestry - Four Bedroom Semi

OSWESTRY



- NO CHAIN!!
- Modern First Floor Apartment
- Two Bedrooms



- Modern Kitchen
- Close to All Amenities
- Electric Heating

Offers in the region of £99,950

MORDA



- Modernised Two Bedroom
- Ground Floor Apartment
- Walled Rear Garden



- Cloakroom
- Double Shower Room
- Close to Local Amenities

£119,950

OSWESTRY



- Delightful Two Bedroom
- Mid Terrace
- Recently Refurbished
- Private Rear Garden
- Close to Local Amenities
- Excellent Road/Rail Links
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing

£109,950

ST MARTINS



- Semi-detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Conservatory



- UPVC Double Glazing
- Good Sized Rear Garden
- Views towards the Berwyns

£159,950

LLANDRINIO



- NO ONWARD CHAIN!!
- RARE OPPORTUNITY!!!
- Detached Bungalow



- Secluded Location
- Ripe For Extension
- Driveway and Parking

£250,000

LLANFECHAN



- MUST SEE PROPERTY!!!
- Charming Country Cottage
- Many Original Features
- Underfloor Heating
- Lovely Cottage Garden



- Large Inglenook
- Sought After Village Location
- Oil Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Off-Road Parking

£249,950

GOBOWEN



- Take a Second Look
- Not What It Seems
- Four Bedrooms



- Spacious Accommodation
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating

£167,950

MEIFOD



- WITH NO CHAIN!!
- Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms



- Village Location
- Backing Onto Fields
- Parking and Garage

Offers in the region of £159,950

OSWESTRY



- No Chain!!
- Detached Bungalow
- Private Sought After Area



- Conservatory
- Off-Road Parking
- Well Looked After Gardens

£269,950

OSWESTRY



- Modern Mid Mews
- Two Bedrooms
- Gas Central Heating



- Garage & Driveway
- Edge Of Town Location
- Well Maintained

£124,950

OSWESTRY



- Three bedrooms
- Detached property
- Oil central heating
- Off road parking

£184,950

ST MARTINS



- Detached Family Home
- Four Bedrooms
- Three Reception Rooms
- Village Location

£239,950

PEN-Y GARNEDD, LLANRHAEADR-YM-MOCHNANT



- Former Coaching Inn
- Many Original Features
- Set in Five Acres



- Oil Central Heating
- Ample Off-Road Parking
- Paddocks

Offers over £300,000

LLANGYNOG



- NO CHAIN!!
- Three Bedroom Cottage
- Semi-Detached



- Stunning Views
- Off-Road Parking
- Oil Central Heating

Offers in the region of £249,000

OSWESTRY



- Three Bedrooms
- Detached Bungalow
- Sought After Area of Oswestry

£249,950



- Two Reception Rooms
- Two Bathrooms
- Ample Off-Road Parking

GOBOWEN



- Two Bedroom Mid Terrace
- Exciting New Development
- Coming Soon



- Close To All Amenities
- Off Road Parking
- Gas Central Heating

£116,950

GOBOWEN



- NO CHAIN!!
- Two Bed Bungalow
- Well Presented
- 24 Hour Support Staff

£107,000

LLANGYNOG



- Stunning Location
- Detached Former Farmhouse
- Family Home
- Three Bedrooms

£265,000

MAESBURY



- WITH NO CHAIN!!
- Four Bedrooms
- Four Reception Rooms
- Renovated to a high standard

Offers in the region of £265,000

LLANWDDYN, LAKE VYRNWY



- Beautiful Location
- Detached Stone Cottage
- Three Bedrooms
- Master En-Suite

Offers in the region of £269,000

OSWESTRY



- Detached Property
- No Chain
- Four Bedrooms. EPC D.
- Finished to a High Standard

Offers in the region of £269,950

OSWESTRY



- Detached Family Home
- Edge of Development
- Four Bedrooms
- Two En-suite

Offers in the region of £269,950



Equestrian property comes with stables

MORTON, OSWESTRY
£750,000

A superb 5.5-acre equestrian country property near Oswestry with stables, a manege and paddocks is on offer with agents Halls for £750,000.

Pool Cottage, Morton, Oswestry comprises a well presented four bedroomed house, a detached two bedroomed annexe, attractively landscaped gardens, an extensive range of outbuildings and first class equine facilities. Pool Cottage has a reception hall/ office, living room, sitting room with a feature brick inglenook, superb fitted kitchen dining room with granite worktops, integrated appliances and French doors to the rear garden, a utility/ boot room and cloakroom on the ground floor. Upstairs there is an en-suite master bedroom with a Juliette balcony, a second en-suite bedroom and two further bedrooms which are served by a family bathroom.

Contact Halls' Oswestry office on 01691 670320.



Cottage has extensive views of the countryside

LLANYMYNECH
£160,000

<<<

With extensive views and development potential, Burnt House at Penryvoel, Llanymynech is for sale through Balfours at £160,000.

The property comes with paddocks, a sitting room, kitchen, two bedrooms and stores. A spokesman for the selling agent said: "The existing stone built two-bedroom cottage is in need of renovation or could be knocked down and rebuilt in the middle of the site, subject to planning permission. "The driveway runs through the paddock to the public highway." Burnt House is set in extensive south facing grounds amounting to 1.6 acres. The grounds have potential for various uses including paddocks. Llanymynech has a range of services which include the village shop, pubs, church and village hall.

Contact Balfours on 01743 353511.

SALES

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Fitz, Shropshire

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5 Bedrooms, 3 Reception Rooms, Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Downstairs Family Bathroom, Utility Room, Larder, 2 Further Rooms, Outbuildings, Gardens

6 acres (2.43 ha)
Guide Price £750,000

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NEW



Heather Bank Gobowen £160,000

- An immaculately presented 2 Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Maintained to the highest of standards throughout
- Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Lounge
- 2 good size Bedrooms and Bathroom.
- Enclosed rear garden, driveway
- providing ample off road parking and single garage
- uPVC double glazing and new gas boiler have been recently installed
- EPC Rating D (66)

NEW



Parc Hafod Llanymynech £325,000

- An immaculately presented 5 Bedroom Detached Family Home
- Located within a quiet residential area in the popular village of Four Crosses
- Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Lounge, Dining Room, Breakfast Kitchen and Utility
- First floor is a Master Suite including Dressing Room and En-Suite
- Further 2 Double Bedrooms and Family Bathroom
- On the second floor are 2 Bedrooms and a Shower Room
- Gardens to the front and rear and a driveway and double garage
- LP Gas Central Heating and Double



Regent Court Oswestry £120,000

- Well appointed 2 Bed 1st Flr Apartment
- Living/Dining Area, Fitted Kitchen
- 2 Bedrooms (master en-suite)
- Sep Shower Rm, Secure car parking
- 24 hour resident secretary, communal lounge & garden
- Security entrance system, lift to all floors & guest accommodation

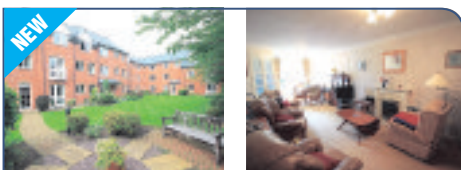
NEW



Rowan Close Four Crosses £149,950

- An excellent 3 Bedroom Detached Family Home
- Entrance Hall, cloakroom, Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Room, Conservatory
- 3Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Gardens, single garage and off road parking
- uPVC double glazing and electric heating.
- *Part Exchange Available (subject to terms & conditions)*
- NO CHAIN. EPC Rating

NEW



Abraham Court Oswestry £105,995

- Beautifully appointed first floor purpose built apartment
- House Manager with Careline backup ensuring help is at hand 24 hours a day
- Camera controlled entry phone system
- Sealed unit double glazing and night storage heating.
- Resident's lounge, residents car park, laundry room
- Guest suite with en-suite facilities for visiting friends or relatives.
- Lift services all floors. EPC Rating



Laburnum Drive Oswestry £139,995

- A spacious 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached House
- Situated in a popular residential area
- Within walking distance of Oswestry town
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Dining Room, Cloakroom
- Three good size Bedrooms and Family Bathroom
- Large enclosed rear garden and gravelled driveway to the front
- Gas C/H and D/G. EPC Rating 'C' (69)
- Utility Room, Cloakroom



The Meads Weston Rhyn £119,950

- A most delightful and spacious Mid-Terrace House
- Lounge, fitted kitchen/breakfast room
- Three bedrooms and family bathroom
- Newly fitted Gas fired boiler & D/G
- Good sized gardens to front & rear
- Off road parking provision
- EPC Rating 'C' 76'




Llanhaeadr YM £250,000

- NO CHAIN - An idyllic Detached Country Cottage set in an elevated position
- With outstanding views over the Tanat Hills and surrounding countryside
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Utility and ground floor Shower Room
- 3 Double Bedrooms (1 en-suite) and a separate Family Bathroom
- The property stands in large lawned gardens
- Ample off road parking together with a single garage
- Concrete shed and former pig sties
- Oil central heating is installed throughout



Old Post Office Lane Trefonon £299,995

- A fully renovated 3 Bedroom Detached Bungalow set within a plot extending to 0.35 acre
- Situated in an elevated position with views towards open countryside
- The property has been fully renovated to a high specification throughout
- Open plan Kitchen - Living Area, Utility Room, Cloaks
- 3 Bedrooms, master bed with en-suite, Bathroom
- Raised veranda leading off Living Area
- Large gravel driveway and detached single garage.
- Brand new uPVC double glazing and Oil C/H. EPC Rating E (49)



Pen Y Lan Oswestry £1,250,000

- An impressive & substantial 6 bedroom Grade II Listed Georgian Country House
- The property has been sympathetically restored to high specification
- Retains a host of period features including mosaic tiled flooring, decorative cornice ceiling finish,
- window shutters and period fireplaces
- Situated in an elevated position on the edge of the historic market town of Oswestry
- Excellent views together with extensive gardens, tennis court and woodland extending to approx 2.8 acres (1.15 ha).



Ashlands Road Weston Rhyn £118,995

- A well maintained 2 Bedroom End-Terrace Property
- Ent Hall, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner
- Family Bathrm & 2 first floor Bedrooms
- Generous corner plot with gardens
- Off road double driveway & electric heating
- EPC Rating F '36'



Weaver Close Oswestry £189,950

- An immaculately presented 4 Bedroom
- Built by Fletcher Homes approx 11 years ago
- Ent Hall, Cloaks, Study/Bedroom 4
- Kitchen/Dining Rm, Utility Room
- Lounge, Bedroom 3, Bathroom
- Master Bedroom(en-suite), Bedrm 2
- Gas C/H, D/G, garage, Driveway
- Gardens front & rear
- EPC Rating C (74)



Maes Yr Ysgol Llanfechain £174,995

- A delightful 2 Bedroom Detached Bungalow
- Ent Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Rear Porch
- 2 Bedrooms and Bathroom.
- Lawned gardens to front and rear
- Driveway and garage
- Oil C/H and uPVC D/G
- NO CHAIN
- EPC Rating E '51'



Great Ness Shrewsbury £339,950

- Grade II Listed Period Property
- Lounge, Living Room, Dining Room
- Kitchen, Utility and Shower Room
- On the first floor are 3 large bedrooms
- (all with the potential to create en-suite's)
- Family Bathroom, 2 Bedrooms and a Study
- Well stocked mature gardens
- NO CHAIN




Whittington Road £99,950

- Well equipped retail unit situated in a prominent position
- Detached steel portal framed single unit extending to 786 sq foot
- Parking, yard to the front
- Remote roller shutter door and security fencing outside.



Weston Road Morda £127,950

- SITE OFFICE OPEN 15TH OCTOBER 12.00 TO 3.00PM
- PRICES FROM £127,950
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- Open plan Lounge/Kitchen, Cloakroom
- 2 Bedrooms & Bathroom.
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- All properties will come with a10 year warranty



Elm Tree Park Llanymynech £350,000

- ONLY TWO REMAINING
- New Build Luxurious homes available
- Fully fitted open plan kitchen/diner, with high quality appliances
- French doors into rear garden, Utility Room
- Study, living room with log burner, Integral Double Garage
- Master Bedroom with en-suite, three other bedrooms and family Bathroom
- PRICES FROM £350000



Plough Bank Weston Rhyn £124,995

- A well maintained and deceptively spacious 2 Bedroom Mid Terrace Property
- Situated within the popular village of Weston Rhyn
- Entrance Hall/Study, Lounge and Kitchen
- 2 good size Bedrooms and a Bathroom
- Enclosed front and rear gardens with allocated parking to the rear
- Gas central heating and double glazing are installed throughout
- EPC Rating



Prince Street Oswestry £90,000

- NO CHAIN
- Spacious 2 Bed Mid Terrace House
- Lounge, Kitchen, Bathroom
- 1 Double Bedrm & 1 Single Bedrm
- Single parking space to rear
- Gas C/H and partial D/G
- Ideal First Time or Investment Purchase
- EPC Rating D (59)



Cherry Tree Dr St Martins £123,999

- NO CHAIN
- A generous 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached Property
- Hallway, Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Room
- 3 Bedrooms and Family Bathroom
- Well maintained gardens to front and rear
- Ample off road parking
- uPVC double glazing, electric storage heaters
- Cavity wall insulation. EPC Rating D (62)



Barn conversion has many original features

CASTLE CAEREINION
£399,950

Penllwyn Barn, Castle Caereinion is on the market through Halls at £399,950.

The property comprises an imposing detached barn conversion that has been sympathetically converted retaining many original features.

The accommodation is well laid out over two floors and offers a generous hallway, large farmhouse-style kitchen, dining room, three ground floor bedrooms and two shower rooms. On the first floor is a feature open-plan living room with an array of original beams and timbers, together with a master bedroom suite with large bedroom with fine views, dressing area and en-suite bathroom. The gardens are of particular note being of generous size and being totally private.

For details contact Halls on 01938 555552.



Delightful cottage enjoys a wonderful rural location

LLANSANTFFRAID
£259,950

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Tair Carreg Cottage in Llansantffraid is a delightful and well maintained detached property set within a picturesque location with open countryside views from all aspects.

Close to the village it has oil-fired central heating, double glazing, a sitting room with a log burner, a kitchen, a reception hall, a bathroom and two bedrooms.

There is ample off road parking.

The property has attractive landscaped gardens with a gently flowing garden stream.

The property is for sale through Morris Marshall & Poole at £259,950.

This is a beautiful location from which to enjoy walking, riding or cycling.

For more details contact Morris Marshall & Poole on 01691 679595.

J. J. DELL & Co.

CHARTERED SURVEYORS

OSWESTRY



- Spacious Town House
- In Sought After Location
- Walking Distance Of Town Centre
- GCH & DG
- Entrance Hall & Cloakroom
- Kitchen/Living Room
- Two Bedrooms
- Bathroom
- Two Parking Spaces
- Small Low Maintenance Garden
- EPC Band - C
- JJD938

GUIDE PRICE £164,950 NO CHAIN

TREFLACH



- Brand New Individually Designed Bungalow
- Quiet Location In Centre Of Village
- Under Floor Heating
- PVC Double Glazing
- Entrance Hall
- Kitchen/Living Area
- Utility And Cloakroom
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Bathroom And En-Suite
- Enclosed Lawned Garden Area
- EPC Band - JJD832

GUIDE PRICE £219,500

ST. MARTINS



- Detached House
- Occupying Pleasant Rural Position
- Opportunity for further improvement
- GFCH
- D/G & Secondary D/G
- Sitting Room & Living Room
- Dining Kitchen
- 3 Good Sized Bedrooms
- Garaging
- Good Sized Garden
- EPC Band D
- JJD805

GUIDE PRICE £189,950

OSWESTRY



- Two Bed. Penthouse Apartment
- Ideal FTB or Buy To Let
- GFCH & Partial upvc DG
- Entrance Lobby
- Galley Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Sitting Room & Dining Room
- Master Bedroom En-Suite
- Outside Studio Room & Sun Terrace
- EPC Band E
- JJD895

GUIDE PRICE £130,000

WHITTINGTON



- Exceptionally Well Appointed Executive Family House
- Occupying Village Location
- GFCH & DG
- Two Reception
- Utility & Cloakroom
- Study & Conservatory
- Four Bedrooms (Master En Suite)
- Triple Garaging & Ample Parking
- Workshop & Shed
- EPC Band - C
- JJD930

GUIDE PRICE £329,950

OSWESTRY



- Four Bed. Period Town Property
- Dining Room And Lounge
- Kitchen And Utility
- Cloakroom And Snug
- Office Area And Snooker Room
- Second Floor Apartment
- Separate Ground Floor Bungalow
- Good Sized Rear Garden With Patio Area
- EPC Band - C
- JJD823

GUIDE PRICE £475,000

OSWESTRY



- Semi-Detached Bungalow Within Walking Distance Of Town Centre
- GCH & DG
- Entrance Hall
- Lounge
- Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms
- Ample Parking
- Paved Rear Garden
- Solar Panels
- EPC Band - C
- JJD939

GUIDE PRICE £139,950

RHYDYCROESAU, NR. OSWESTRY



- Exceptionally Well Appointed Welsh Stone Cottage
- GFCH & UPVC D/G
- Sitting Room
- Fitted Dining Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms
- Separate Garaging
- Sun Room And Workshop
- Rear Terrace Garden
- EPC Band F
- JJD901

GUIDE PRICE £184,750

WEST FELTON



- Well Appointed Three Bed. Detached House
- GFCH & PVC DG
- Living Room
- Dining Kitchen
- Cloakroom & Utility
- Conservatory
- Two En-Suites
- Garage & Parking
- Attractive South Facing Rear Garden
- Backing Onto Open Fields
- EPC Band - C
- JJD910

GUIDE PRICE £272,500

WEST FELTON



- Fine Detached Bungalow On Outskirts Of Village
- GFCH & DG
- Living Room
- Kitchen Diner
- Three Bedrooms
- Shower Room
- Garage/Workshop & Car Port
- Good Sized Garden
- Plot
- EPC Band - G
- JJD883

OFFERS ON £249,950

GOWEN



- Semi-Detached Bungalow With Disability Modifications
- PVC DG
- Entrance Porch And Hall
- Kitchen And Utility
- Lounge
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Shower Room
- Garage And Car Parking
- Front And Rear Gardens
- EPC Band - E
- JJD929

GUIDE PRICE £142,500

OSWESTRY



- Attractive Detached Bungalow Within Walking Distance Of Town centre
- GFCH & DG
- Entrance Hall
- Cloakroom
- Kitchen
- Lounge Diner
- Two Bedrooms
- Garage
- Easily Maintained Garden Plot
- EPC Band - D
- JJD936

GUIDE PRICE £199,000

OSWESTRY (01691) 653437 - (01691) 680212



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MORRIS MARSHALL & POOLE

www.morrismarshall.co.uk
 Chartered Surveyors | Auctioneers | Estate Agents
 Established 1862



1 Coppice Drive, Oswestry
£154,950

Detached house on edge of town. Two reception rooms and sun room to rear. Fitted kitchen and ground floor toilet. Three bedrooms and fitted bathroom. Double glazing and gas fired central heating. Rear vehicular access to garage. On-site parking and enclosed garden and patio. EPC Rating = 46 (E)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



5 Greenbank Close, Oswestry
£165,000

A well located detached house. Within walking distance of the town centre. Large lounge, dining room and kitchen. Ground floor cloakroom and useful rear lobby. Three bedrooms and fitted shower room. Attached single garage and gardens to front and rear. Gas-fired central heating and double glazing. EPC Rating = 68 (D)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



32 Lower Belle Vue, Morda
£127,500

Semi detached house in village location. Lounge and fitted kitchen/breakfast room. Three bedrooms and fitted bathroom. Gas-fired central heating and double glazing. Gardens to both front and rear. Good local amenities and access to Oswestry. Available with no onward chain. EPC Rating = 53 (E)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



15 York Street, Oswestry
£89,950

A well presented two bedroom end terrace house situated in an established residential area which has been significantly improved with recent kitchen, bathroom, central heating boiler and carpets. Additionally the house has double glazed windows with uPVC frames and has been redecorated throughout. The property is offered for sale with no upward chain. Energy Efficiency Rating = 63 (D).

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



Holly Cottage, Maesbury
£177,500

Detached country cottage overlooking adjoining countryside. Two reception rooms with open fires. Fully fitted kitchen including built-in appliances. Two bedrooms, bathroom and "shower". Double glazed and oil-fired central heating. Gardens and ample on-site parking. Available with no onward chain. EPC Rating = 34(F)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



2 Dol Hendre, Llangynog
£149,950

Extended Semi-Detached House. Snug, Sitting Room, Conservatory. Kitchen, Rear Porch. Ground Floor Bedroom/Annexe Room with En-suite Shower Room. 3 Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom. Lawned garden to front and rear. Timber Shed. Solid fuel heating. Partial double glazed. Adjoining farmland to rear. Energy efficiency rating = 48

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



67 Beatrice Street, Oswestry
£4,320

Well located edge of town retail outlet. Gas-fired central heating. On-street parking available. Flexible lease terms available. Available for immediate occupation. Approx 37sqm (400sqft) tiered sales area. Suitable for small start-up business. Commercial EPC Rating = 170 (G). £4,320 per annum

Oswestry Office 01691 679595

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES TO LET

OSWESTRY

2 Bed Mid/Terrace, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets,

(EPC=44) (£495 dep)£395 pcm

2 Bed Mid/Terrace, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets,

(EPC=83) (£595 dep)£495 pcm

3 Bed F/Floor Flat, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets,

(EPC=61) (£600 dep)£500 pcm

ELLESMERE

3 Bed Barn, Oil C/H, FTE, No Pets, (EPC=21) (£850 dep).....£750 pcm

LLANFYLLIN

1 Bed G/Floor Flat, EI/Heat, FTE, No Pets,

(EPC=52) (£425 dep)£295 pcm

1 Bed First & Sec/F Flat, EI/Heat, FTE, No Pets,

(EPC=64) (£425 dep)£295 pcm

2 Bed Mid-Terrace, Gas C/H, FTE, No Pets,

(EPC=77) (£495 dep)£385 pcm

Fees: Application Fee: £40. Lease Fee: £150



26 Church St, Oswestry P.A:
£10,000

First and second floor office accommodation. Approximately 140 sqm (1500 sq ft) in total. Lift approach off street level lobby area. Rear access available via stairs. Disabled toilet, staff toilets and kitchen. Town centre location. Flexible lease terms available. Commercial EPC Rating = G. £10,000 per annum (Ground Floor Business Unaffected)

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



Home in village comes with extra parking space

ST MARTINS
£239,950

A spacious four-bedroomed detached family home, Waterloo House in Ellesmere Road, St Martins comes with ample parking for vehicles and a caravan/motorhome and a well looked after rear garden.

It is for sale through Town & Country at £239,950. It has an entrance hall, a living room, a dining room, a sitting room, a kitchen, a utility room, a cloakroom/WC, a landing, four bedrooms and a family bathroom. The rear garden is a particular feature of the property, also coming with two sheds, and the property is close to road and rail links to major towns and cities.

In more detail a covered canopy porch leads to the front door. The entrance hall has under-stairs access to the cellar and stairs off. The living room has a bay window overlooking the property's frontage and a feature fireplace with an electric fire. The dining room



also overlooks the front and has a glazed door to the sitting room. This room has windows to the side and rear, a feature fireplace with a gas fire on a quarry tiled hearth and an archway to the kitchen.

The kitchen has base and wall units, working surfaces over, a single bowl sink and drainer with a mixer tap, an integrated stainless steel oven, hob over, extractor fan over, integrated fridge, part tiled walls, vinyl flooring and spotlights and a double glazed window to the side.

The utility room has a built-in cupboard, sink and drainer, plumbing for a washing machine and windows and a door to the rear, while the cloakroom has a WC, wash hand basin and a side window.

The front garden is gravelled with a path to the front door. The rear garden is well maintained, having lawn, flower and shrub borders and a patio area.

Contact Town & Country on 01691 679631.



Five-bedroomed detached home is immaculately presented

FOUR CROSSES
£325,000 >>>

Immaculately presented, 7, Parc Hafod, Four Crosses is a five-bedroomed detached family home in a quiet residential area in a popular village.

Having easy access on to the A5/A483, it is for sale through Bowen Son & Watson at £325,000. Maintained to the highest of standards the accommodation briefly comprises an entrance hall, cloakroom, lounge, dining room, breakfast kitchen and utility whilst on the first floor is a master suite including dressing room and an ensuite, a further two double bedrooms and a family bathroom. On the second floor are two bedrooms and a shower room.

The property sits on a well proportioned plot with gardens to the front and rear and a driveway and a double garage. The property has gas central heating and double glazing installed throughout.

For more information contact Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367.



Bungalow sits in sought after residential area in popular town

OSWESTRY
£199,000 <<<

An attractive detached bungalow, 25 Brynhafod Road, Oswestry, has a level and low maintenance garden plot and is located within walking distance of the town centre.

The home is on the market through JJ Dell&Co with a guide price of £199,000 and there is no chain. The property benefits from gas central heating and double glazing.

The home has an entrance hall, cloakroom, kitchen, lounge diner, two bedrooms, bathroom and a garage. The property occupies a quiet position on Brynhafod Road, a sought after residential area within easy level walking distance of the town's shopping centre.

The traditional border market town of Oswestry has good local shopping facilities, supermarkets, secondary and private schooling.

For more details about the property contact JJ Dell&Co on 01691 653437 or 680212.





Chelsea Kennedy is busy planting the seeds for the produce grown at Derwen College



Thomas Salsbury checks apple quality

College enjoys taste of success

IT is an award that major food producers battle to win – and students from a specialist college are celebrating after winning it for the second year running.

Youngsters at Derwen College, Gobowen, have received two Great Taste Awards for their raspberry jam and spiced apple chutney, all made by the students from fruit grown in the college orchards.

The students, who have learning disabilities, not only grow the fruit and make the products, but even design and print the labels. Now the preserves can wear the badge of honour, the black and gold Great Taste label that means an artisan product, discovered through hours and hours of blind-tasting by hundreds of judges. To share their success there will be tasters of the award winning raspberry jam and spiced apple chutney until Saturday in Young's Farm Shop and a special offer of two jars for just £3.

Nina Brown, food centre coordinator, said: "We are so pleased with these awards and the

Report by Sue Austin

comments from the judges. They reflect the hard work of the students and the team here. Our raspberry jam is one of our top sellers in the farm shop and at outside market events so it is great to get this official recognition for the jam.

"Students are involved in every process here from planting seeds and growing fruit and vegetables, making the jams and chutneys in the food centre and stocking and selling in the farm shop. We also create the labels here on site."

Judges said the college jam had "fabulous colour and fresh aroma" and praised the "good, well made, honest chutney".

Students also run market stalls at the artisan market in Oswestry as well as at food events including the Ludlow Food Festival earlier this year.

The range of homemade produce includes jams, chutneys, breads, cakes and desserts.

The Great Taste Awards are judged by more than 500 of the most demanding palates, belonging to food critics, chefs, cooks, restaurateurs and producers as well as a whole host of food writers and specialist journalists.



Derwen College student Ellie Saunders and Nina Brown, food centre coordinator, with the award winning jams and chutneys



Derwen College student Chris Chapman is busy stirring a pan of jam



Students and staff are proud of their work at Derwen College



Pointless Celebrities

5.40pm
Alexander Armstrong and Richard Osman present a star-studded version of the quiz featuring more famous names. Taking part are Chris Packham and Martin Hughes-Games, Tom Heap and Jules Hudson, Miranda Krestovnikoff and Paul Heiney, and Naomi Wilkinson and Bill Oddie.



The Talented Mr Ripley

10.30pm
A man agrees to travel to Italy and persuade a businessman's spoiled son to return home. Before long he develops a taste for the high life, and decides to get in on the action. Anthony Minghella's thriller, starring Matt Damon, Jude Law, Gwyneth Paltrow and Cate Blanchett.



The Jonathan Ross Show

10pm
The host is joined by QI funnyman and star of Jonathan Creek Alan Davies, whose latest stand-up DVD is released next month. Also dropping by are actor and comedian Russell Brand and impressionist Morgana Robinson, who is sure to demonstrate her famous impersonation of Brand.



8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown

9pm
Jimmy Carr hosts the panel show's version of the words and numbers quiz, with Sean Lock and Victoria Coren Mitchell going up against guest captain Lee Mack and Bob Mortimer. Alex Horne and the Horne Section join Susie Dent in Dictionary Corner.



NCIS: New Orleans

8pm
A petty officer is killed at a US Navy construction site, and when the team realises a shipment of TNT has gone missing, a motive for murder in unveiled. Pride discovers a connection to a drugs ring, but when he launches a sting, he is shocked to find Sonja among the dealers on-site.

BBC1	
6.00	Breakfast.
10.00	Saturday Kitchen Live. Donal Skehan presents, with chefs Brad Carter and Amandine Chaignot on hand to prepare a selection of tasty dishes. Plus, actress Kimberley Nixon faces her food heaven or hell.
11.30	James Martin: Home Comforts. With chef Michael Caines. (R)
12.00	Football Focus. Dan Walker and guests look ahead to the weekend's matches, which include Manchester City v Everton and Chelsea v Leicester City in the Premier League.
1.00	BBC News; Weather.
1.15	Bargain Hunt. Two teams compete in Bulth Wells in Powys. (R)
2.00	Escape to the Country. A retired couple plan to downsize to a rural property on Oxfordshire. (R)
2.30	Live Cycling: Road World Championships. Jill Douglas introduces coverage of the women's road race, staged on a flat course in Qatar. With commentary by Simon Brotherton and Rochelle Gilmore.
4.30	Final Score. Jason Mohammad presents a round-up of the classified results and this afternoon's news from the Premier League, Football League and Scotland.
5.20	BBC News.
5.30	Midlands Today; Weather.
5.40	Pointless Celebrities. A star-studded version of the quiz featuring famous names from the world of TV wildlife programmes, including Chris Packham, Tom Heap, Miranda Krestovnikoff and Bill Oddie.
6.30	Strictly Come Dancing. The 13 remaining pro-celebrity duos must prove their mastery of ballroom and Latin routines in live performances ahead of tomorrow's results show.
8.25	The National Lottery: Five Star Family Reunion. A UK family and their long-lost overseas relatives must work together to win a once-in-a-lifetime reunion in a five-star location. Includes the weekend draw with Gaby Roslin.
9.15	Casualty. Elle calls Connie's ability to focus on the job into question, and Robyn's plans for the future take an unexpected turn.
10.05	BBC News; Weather.
10.25	Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Manchester City v Everton at the Etihad Stadium and Chelsea v Leicester City at Stamford Bridge; National Lottery Update.
11.50	Asian Provocateur: Mum's American Dream. New series. Comedian Ramesh Ranganathan and his mother Shanthi cross the Atlantic to meet a branch of their family that chose to leave Sri Lanka and settle in the United States.
12.20	FILM: Wedding Daze (2006). A depressed man spontaneously proposes to a waitress, who accepts, but their engagement dismisses his friends and family. Romantic comedy, starring Jason Biggs and Isla Fisher.
1.50	Weather for the Week Ahead.
1.55	BBC News.

BBC2	
6.00	FILM: Till the End of Time (1946). Drama, starring Guy Madison and Robert Mitchum.
7.45	Coast. (R)
8.45	FILM: Wuthering Heights (1939). Period drama, starring Merle Oberon and Laurence Olivier.
10.25	Laurence Olivier: Talking Pictures. (R)
11.00	Lost Land of the Jaguar. (R)
12.00	Lorraine's Fast, Fresh and Easy Food. Easy-to-prepare dishes to fit into a hectic daily routine. Last in the series. (R)
12.30	Great British Menu. Kevin Gould helps judge the week's two highest-scoring chefs. (R)
1.00	Great British Menu. (R)
1.30	Great British Menu. (R)
2.00	Nature's Weirdest Events. Why a much-loved dolphin has started breaking people's bones. (R)
3.00	Flog It! From Dulwich College, south London.
4.00	The Hairy Bikers' Chicken and Egg. Dave and Si head to Bromsgrove to taste some jerk chicken. Last in the series. (R)
5.00	Gardeners' World. Monty Don attends his dry garden. (R)
6.00	Inside the Commons. Michael Cockerell examines why backbench MPs are becoming increasingly rebellious. (R)
7.00	The Great British Bake Off: An Extra Slice. Deborah Meaden of Dragons' Den fame, chef Michael Caines and comedian Miles Jupp join host Jo Brand to discuss the latest events inside the tent. (R)
7.30	A Very British Murder with Lucy Worsley. The historian examines how murder infiltrated popular culture during the Victorian era, and how the depiction of grisly crimes captured the public's imagination.
8.30	Dad's Army. Pike borrows Mainwaring's new staff car to take his girlfriend to the cinema – but it breaks down, leaving the lovebirds stranded in the middle of nowhere. (R)
9.00	The Secret Life of Sue Townsend (Aged 68 3/4). Profile of the creator of Adrian Mole, with contributions from comedians and writers she inspired, as well as entries from her own diary, documenting her struggles with ill health.
10.00	Artsnight: When Julie Walters Met Willy Russell. Julie Walters interviews her friend and collaborator Willy Russell about his career as a playwright, and the pair explore some of Liverpool's lesser-known cultural landmarks.
10.30	FILM: The Talented Mr Ripley (1999). A man is paid to persuade a businessman's spoiled son to return home to his family, but ends up assuming his identity. Anthony Minghella's thriller, with Matt Damon and Jude Law.
12.45	Andrew Marr's Great Scots: The Writers Who Shaped a Nation. (R)
1.45	FILM: X the Unknown (1956). Hammer sci-fi horror, starring Dean Jagger.
3.00	This is BBC2.

ITV	
6.00	CITV: Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids 6.15 Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids 6.25 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures 6.35 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures 6.50 Sooty 7.00 Signed Stories: Share a Story 7.05 Super 4 7.20 Oddbods Scrambled!: Scrambled! Two hours of children's fun.
7.25	Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. Animated comedy. (R)
7.30	Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. Cartoon about a mischievous youngster. (R)
7.50	Scrambled!: Looped. (R)
8.10	Scrambled!: DC Super Hero Girls: Super Hero High. Supergirl struggles to learn to control her new powers.
8.30	Scrambled!: Adventure Time. Fun for children. (R)
9.05	Scrambled!: Adventure Time. Fun for children. (R)
9.25	ITV News.
9.30	Murder, She Wrote. A cruise-ship passenger is murdered. (R)
10.20	Murder, She Wrote. Jessica investigates a detective's murder. (R)
11.20	Judge Rinder. Real-life cases in a studio courtroom. (R)
12.15	ITV News and Weather; Weather.
12.20	Cash Trapped. Quiz, hosted by Bradley Walsh. (R)
1.20	The Chase. Quiz show, hosted by Bradley Walsh. (R)
2.20	Big Star's Little Star. With Lee Ryan, Nitin Ganatra and Samantha Giles. (R)
3.20	Pick Me! Game show featuring lively, loud and energetic players. (R)
4.25	Ninja Warrior UK. The first semi-final of the obstacle-based endurance contest. (R)
5.25	ITV News Central; Weather.
5.40	ITV News and Weather.
6.00	Tippling Point: Lucky Stars. New series. Ben Shephard presents a celebrity edition of the quiz, in which Jimmy Carr, David Haye and Charlotte Crosby answer questions to win turns on an arcade-style machine.
7.00	Meet the Parents. New series. Dating show, hosted by Holly Willoughby, which puts the love lives of singletons in the hands of the people they know best – their mum and dad.
8.00	The X Factor. The live stage of the talent contest continues, as the remaining contestants once again perform in front of judges – and the millions of viewers at home.
10.00	The Jonathan Ross Show. The host is joined by QI funnyman Alan Davies, actor and comedian Russell Brand, impressionist Morgana Robinson and the newly reunited Bros. Singer Rebecca Ferguson performs live.
11.05	ITV News and Weather; Weather.
11.25	FILM: Rest in Peace, Mrs Columbus (1990). A woman seeks revenge on Columbus for the death of her husband in prison, and plans to make him suffer by murdering his wife. Crime drama, starring Peter Falk and Ian McShane.
1.10	Jackpot247. Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.00	Murder, She Wrote. (R)
3.50	ITV Nightscreen.

Channel 4	
6.15	Motor Sport: GT Academy. Action from the international competition.
6.40	Yorkshire Marathon. Highlights of the third staging of the race from York.
7.30	Frasier. A waitress captures Frasier's heart. (R)
8.00	Frasier. Niles puts Daphne on a diet. (R)
8.30	Frasier. Niles is given a shot at basketball stardom. (R)
9.00	The Morning Line. Rishi Persad presents from Ascot.
10.00	The Big Bang Theory. Sheldon is interviewed for a Star Trek documentary.
10.25	The Big Bang Theory. Howard and Raj try to find Sheldon a new girlfriend.
10.55	The Simpsons. Marge breaks her leg. (R)
11.25	The Simpsons. Bart becomes convinced he is a faith healer. (R)
11.55	Sarah Beeny's Four Rooms. Items include a horror film posters and a Rolex trench watch.
1.00	Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage of British Champions Day at Ascot.
4.45	A Place in the Sun: Summer Sun. A retired woman looks for a home on Spain's Costa Blanca.
5.45	George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. A Devon fireman puts his mother-in-law in the doghouse. (R)
6.40	Channel 4 News.
7.00	The Crossrail Discovery: London's Lost Graveyard. Documentary revealing how Crossrail engineers uncovered a burial site on Liverpool Street in London, providing an insight into what life in the capital was like 300 years ago. (R)
8.00	Britain's Ancient Tracks with Tony Robinson. New series. The historian explores the UK's network of ancient trackways and roads, which have been walked by pilgrims, hunters and invaders over the course of the past 5,000 years.
9.00	8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown. Jimmy Carr hosts the comedy panel show's version of the words and numbers quiz, with Sean Lock and Victoria Coren Mitchell going up against guest captain Lee Mack and Bob Mortimer.
10.00	FILM: Limitless (2011). A failed writer acquires a drug that increases his brain power, but his new abilities attract dangerous attention. Sci-fi thriller, starring Bradley Cooper and Robert De Niro.
12.05	FILM: Starred Up (2013). A young offender is transferred to an adult prison, where he is reunited with his father and must learn to control his rage. Drama, starring Jack O'Connell and Rupert Friend.
2.05	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares USA. Gordon Ramsay revisits four restaurants he earlier tried to save. (R)
2.55	Hollyoaks. Omnibus. Ste and Ryan have a heated row. (R)
4.55	Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. The property expert helps homeowners in Kent. (R)
5.50	The King of Queens. (R)

Channel 5	
6.00	Milkshake! Milkshake! Monkey 6.05 Milkshake! Bop Box 6.10 Peppa Pig 6.15 Angelina Ballerina 6.25 Bob the Builder 6.40 Wanda and the Alien 6.50 Zack and Quack 7.00 Pets 7.05 Fireman Sam 7.20 Pip Ahoy! 7.35 Little Princess 7.45 Paw Patrol 8.05 Blaze and the Monster Machines 8.30 Noddy in Toyland 8.45 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom 9.00 Shimmer and Shine 9.25 Peppa Pig 9.35 Peppa Pig 9.45 Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom
9.55	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles.
10.30	Police Interceptors. (R)
11.05	Police Interceptors. A petrol thief's stealing spree comes to a halt. (R)
12.00	Police Interceptors. Craggy has an early morning encounter with a polecat. (R)
2.00	Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords. A landlady gets a shock when she finally gains access to her property. (R)
3.00	Nightmare Tenants, Slum Landlords. Alarming tales from all corners of the buy-to-let system. (R)
4.00	Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. (R)
5.00	Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Stewart and Iain are left to argue a £3,500 debt with a builder's wife in Blackpool. (R)
6.05	NCIS. (R)
7.00	NCIS. Having identified the mole in their ranks, the agents are forced to rely on information from questionable sources as they try to prevent a criminal stealing government secrets. (R)
8.00	NCIS: New Orleans. The murder of a petty officer on a US Navy construction site leads Pride to a drugs cartel, but when he launches a sting, he discovers Sonja among the dealers.
8.55	5 News Weekend.
9.00	Football on 5: The Championship. George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce highlights from the weekend's games, including Newcastle United v Brentford and Derby County v Leeds United.
10.00	Football on 5: Goal Rush. George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce all the goals from the games in Leagues One and Two, including Scunthorpe United v Milton Keynes Dons and Sheffield United v Port Vale.
10.30	Britain's Greatest Bridges. Rob Bell reveals the story behind the construction of the Forth Rail Bridge and how its incredible engineering achievement was born from tragedy and paid for in blood. (R)
11.25	Ram Raid Britain: Caught on Camera. The documentary showing how CCTV and technological advances are helping to bring criminals to justice looks at the rise of ram raids. (R)
12.15	SuperCasino.
3.05	FILM: You Don't Mess with the Zohan (2008). An Israeli Special Agent makes a fresh start as a New York hair stylist, but ends up using his skills to defend his neighbourhood. Comedy, with Adam Sandler.
4.50	Nick's Quest. (R)
5.40	Angels of Jarm. (R)
5.50	Roary the Racing Car. (R)



Poldark
9pm
Ross goes with Trecrom to meet Mark Daniel. Dwight prepares to elope with Caroline, but before he can leave, he finds he is needed to treat Rosina's injured leg once again. Further developments keep him from joining Caroline, as he and Demelza unmask the informant.



Wild West: America's Great Frontier
9pm
Wildlife in America's mountain regions, including the Rockies and the Sierra Nevada, areas infamous for extremes of temperature from freezing winters to scorching summers. The programme examines the survival strategies employed by animals.



The Chase Celebrity Special
7pm
Celebrity contestants Susie Dent, Anthony Crolla, Ellie Taylor and Harry Redknapp pit their wits against the Chaser. They must work as a team and play strategically to answer general knowledge questions against the clock and race down the game board to the exit without being caught.



Child Genius vs Celebrities: SU2C Special
8pm
Richard Osman hosts a quiz show pitting four gifted youngsters featured on Child Genius against a team of Channel 4's finest celebrity minds, made up of Alan Carr, Rachel Riley, Krishnan Guru-Murthy and Aisling Bea.



Ice Road Truckers
8.05pm
Todd runs into trouble when he breaks down in the middle of nowhere as he and rival Darrell Ward hit a newly opened trail. Plus, Polar boss Mark pairs his new recruit with company wildcard Art Burke, which makes for a rocky journey and Alex Debogorski relies on his instincts when he gets lost.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast.
7.30 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Manchester City v Everton at the Etihad Stadium and Chelsea v Leicester City at Stamford Bridge. (R)
9.00 The Andrew Marr Show.
10.00 Sunday Morning Live. Naga Munchetty presents a topical debate.
11.00 Sunday Politics West Midlands. The week's events at Westminster, presented by Andrew Neil. Including a regional round-up.
12.15 Bargain Hunt. A visit to the East of England Showground. (R)
1.00 BBC News; Weather.
1.15 Homes Under the Hammer. Featuring properties in Walthamstow, Staffordshire and Cornwall. (R)
1.45 Escape to the Country. Sonali Shah searches for an idyllic Oxfordshire home. (R)
2.30 Points of View.
2.45 The Great British Bake Off. Tudor Week makes its Bake Off debut in time for the quarter-finals. (R)
3.45 Books that Made Britain. How Birmingham inspired The Lord of the Rings.
4.15 Songs of Praise. Vicar Kate Bottley prepares a Harvest Festival of the Sea.
4.50 Animal Babies. Animals growing up in mountain regions. Last in the series.
5.50 BBC News.
6.05 Midlands Today; Weather.
6.15 Countryfile. Matt Baker and Anita Rani explore the Isle of Wight, where Matt absconds down the walls of Carisbrooke Castle and Anita helps local volunteers to round up feral goats. Including weather for the week ahead.
7.15 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results. The two lowest scoring couples from last night's show compete in a dance-off to decide who will be eliminated. Plus, a guest performance by Madness and a tribute to James Brown.
8.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce presents the show from Baddesley Clinton, a moated manor house near Birmingham. Items brought in to be valued include a controversial carving of St George.
9.00 Poldark. Dwight prepares to elope with Caroline, but his plans are jeopardised when he is needed to treat Rosina's leg, and also discovers that Ross is walking into a trap.
10.00 BBC News.
10.20 Midlands Today; Weather.
10.30 Have I Got a Bit More News for You. Extended edition. Stephen Mangan hosts the satirical current affairs quiz, with Ruth Davidson and Henning Wehn joining team captains Ian Hislop and Paul Merton.
11.10 FILM: Midnight's Children (2012). Two men switched at birth find their lives intertwined as they grow up in newly independent India. Drama based on Salman Rushdie's novel, starring Satya Bhabha and Sidharth.
1.25 Weather for the Week Ahead.
1.30 BBC News.

BBC2

6.15 The A to Z of TV Gardening. Carol Kirkwood looks at subjects beginning with the letter J. (R)
7.00 Glorious Gardens from Above. Christine Walkden visits Bodnant Garden in Snowdonia. (R)
7.45 Gardeners' World. Monty Don attends his dry garden. (R)
8.45 Countryfile. How rivers and waterways have shaped our landscape. (R)
9.40 The Beechgrove Garden. The team pay a visit to Strathkinness, Fife.
10.15 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. Highlights of the series.
11.45 Food & Drink. The team discusses comfort food with guest Monica Galetti. (R)
12.15 MOTD2 Extra. With Mark Chapman and the Match of the Day team.
1.00 Great British Menu. The North East chefs prepare dishes made with venison and wagyu-angus beef. (R)
1.30 Great British Menu. The North East hopefuls serve up their desserts. (R)
2.00 Great British Menu. The North East region's two highest-scoring chefs compete. (R)
2.30 Live Cycling: Road World Championships. Jill Douglas introduces coverage of the men's road race from Qatar.
5.00 Flog It! From Wells Cathedral in Somerset.
6.00 Giraffes: Africa's Gentle Giants – Natural World. Conservationist Dr Julian Fennessy sets out to save the endangered giraffes of Africa, rounding up 20 of the rarest animals to take across the Nile River and beyond to safety. (R)
7.00 Inside Obama's White House. Four-part series giving an account of Barack Obama's successes and failures, as told by his inner circle and chief adversaries. (R)
8.00 The Greatest Tomb On Earth: Secrets of Ancient China. Dan Snow, Alice Roberts and Albert Lin explore the final resting place of China's first emperor, and uncover evidence that casts a new light on the founding of the nation.
9.00 Wild West: America's Great Frontier. Wildlife in America's mountain regions, including the Rockies and the Sierra Nevada, exploring the methods used by black bears, pikas and bison to survive in harsh conditions.
10.00 Mock the Week. Rob Beckett, Ed Gamble, Milton Jones, Roshes Ranganathan and Tiff Stevenson join host Dara O Briain and regular Hugh Dennis for the topical comedy show. (R)
10.35 FILM: Borrowed Time (2012). Premiere. An elderly recluse forms a friendship with a desperate would-be criminal he catches trying to rob his house. Comedy drama, starring Philip Davis and Theo Barklem-Biggs.
12.00 FILM: The Magdalene Sisters (2002). Drama, starring Geraldine McEwan.
1.50 Sign Zone: Countryfile. (R)
2.50 Sign Zone: Holby City. (R)
3.45 This Is BBC2. Preview of upcoming programmes.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids
6.10 Grizzly Tales for Gruesome Kids
6.25 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures
6.35 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures
6.50 Sooty 7.00 Signed Stories: Share a Story
7.05 Super 4 7.20 Oddbods
7.25 Scrambled!: Scrambled! Two hours of children's fun.
7.30 Scrambled!: Nerds & Monsters. Animated comedy. (R)
7.50 Scrambled!: Horrid Henry. Cartoon about a mischievous youngster. (R)
8.10 Scrambled!: Looped.
8.30 Scrambled!: Thunderbirds Are Go. The Hood has infiltrated Tracy Island. (R)
9.05 Scrambled!: Adventure Time. Fun for children. (R)
9.25 ITV News.
9.30 Bear Grylls Survival School. The children are challenged to climb a mountain.
10.00 Peston on Sunday. Political magazine.
11.00 Gino's Italian Escape: Hidden Italy. Gino D'Acampo explores lesser-known parts of the country, beginning in Abruzzo. (R)
11.30 Chopping Block. It is a day of British dishes, and Atul and Bharat try devilled kidneys. (R)
12.30 ITV News and Weather; Weather.
12.40 The X Factor. The live stage of the talent contest continues. (R)
2.35 Victoria. The pregnant queen survives an assassination attempt. Last in the series. (R)
3.40 Midsomer Murders. A Spanish-themed evening ends in murder. (R)
5.40 Doc Martin. News of Martin and Louisa's engagement spreads rapidly through the village, while Al steps in to help as Bert struggles to keep the restaurant afloat. (R)
6.35 ITV News Central; Weather.
6.45 ITV News and Weather.
7.00 The Chase Celebrity Special. Susie Dent, Anthony Crolla, Ellie Taylor and Harry Redknapp work as a team to take on quiz genius the Chaser and secure a cash prize for charity. Presented by Bradley Walsh.
8.00 The X Factor. The results of Saturday's live show are announced, and the acts discover who is through to the next episode and who will have to compete in a sing-off to avoid elimination.
9.00 Tutankhamun. New series. Drama about the discovery of the Pharaoh's tomb in 1905 by archaeologist Howard Carter, whose dig is jeopardised by global events. Starring Max Irons and Sam Neill.
10.05 ITV News and Weather; Weather.
10.20 Peston on Sunday. Political magazine, presented by Robert Peston, with ITV News National Editor Allegra Stratton. (R)
11.20 Murder, She Wrote. Jessica tackles a case in Japan, where a motorcyclist romancing the daughter of a traditional family finds his life is on the line. (R)
12.15 Jackpot247. Interactive gaming.
3.00 Motorsport UK.
3.50 ITV Nightscreen. Text-based information service.

Channel 4

6.15 Mobil 1 The Grid. Including a preview of the United States Formula 1 Grand Prix.
6.40 Motorcycle Racing: Mondello Masters. Action from the final round of the Irish series.
7.35 Frasier. Roz asks Frasier to narrate a documentary. (R)
8.00 Frasier. Niles and Frasier try to help their old school. (R)
8.25 Find It, Fix It, Flog It. Henry Cole and Simon O'Brien visit a stately home in Somerset.
9.30 Sunday Brunch. With guests Aisling Bea, Stephen Merchant, Mel C and Harry Hill.
12.30 Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast. With guest David Tennant. (R)
1.30 FILM: The Rescuers (1977). Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Eva Gabor.
3.05 The Simpsons. Santa's Little Helper runs away from home. (R)
3.30 The Simpsons. Otto breaks up with his new bride. (R)
4.00 The Simpsons. Spoof behind-the-scenes special. (R)
4.30 FILM: The Golden Compass (2007). Fantasy adventure, starring Dakota Blue Richards and Nicole Kidman.
6.35 Channel 4 News.
7.00 Posh Pawn. A collection of Iranian jewellery is brought in to the shop, Claudia examines a handbag that once belonged to Sharon Osbourne, and the staff compete to win employee of the month.
8.00 Child Genius vs Celebrities: SU2C Special. Richard Osman hosts a quiz show in which four gifted youngsters take on celebrities Alan Carr, Rachel Riley, Krishnan Guru-Murthy and Aisling Bea in a series of mental challenges.
9.00 The Crystal Maze SU2C Celebrity Special. Stephen Merchant hosts a one-off revival of the game show, with a celebrity team made up of Rio Ferdinand, Michelle Keegan, Jonnie Peacock, Sara Cox, and Josh Widdicombe.
10.00 Gogglebox. Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. (R)
11.05 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown. Jimmy Carr hosts the comedy panel show's version of the words and numbers quiz, with Sean Lock and Victoria Coren Mitchell going up against guest captain Lee Mack and Bob Mortimer. (R)
12.10 FILM: Stoker (2013). Thriller, starring Mia Wasikowska.
1.50 Grand Designs Australia. A couple plan to build a modern and eco-friendly house. (R)
2.50 The Tiny Tots Talent Agency. Examining the changing face of the children's talent industry. Last in the series. (R)
3.45 Kirstie's Vintage Gems. (R)
4.05 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent. Properties in Shropshire and Worcestershire. (R)
Location, Location, Location. (R)
5.05

Channel 5

6.00 Milkshake! Milkshake! Monkey **6.05** Peppa Pig **6.10** Angelina Ballerina **6.25** Bob the Builder **6.35** Wanda and the Alien **6.45** Zack and Quack **6.55** Pets **7.00** Fireman Sam **7.15** Pip Ahoy! **7.35** Little Princess **7.50** Paw Patrol **8.10** Blaze and the Monster Machines
8.35 Football on 5: The Championship. Highlights from the weekend's games in the Championship. (R)
9.30 Football on 5: Goal Rush. Goals from the weekend's games in the Leagues One and Two. (R)
10.00 The Great Birmingham Run 2016. Live coverage of the half-marathon.
12.00 The Gadget Show. Jon Bentley tests the latest 360 degree cameras at Sweden's World Rally Cross. (R)
12.55 The Hotel Inspector. The Green Man Pub and Hotel in Wembley, north London. (R)
1.50 The Hotel Inspector. Alex Polizzi helps the owners of a music-themed B&B in Torquay. (R)
2.50 FILM: Big Momma's House (2000). Comedy, starring Martin Lawrence.
4.35 FILM: Mr Deeds (2002). Romantic comedy remake, starring Adam Sandler and Winona Ryder.
6.20 Now That's Funny! Featuring amateur athletes, a tribute to CSI with a cast of children and a talking baby.
7.10 Penn & Teller: Fool Us in Vegas. The final round of acts include a performer who demonstrates why you should not steal from a magician. Penn and Teller close the show with a vanishing egg trick. Last in the series.
8.05 Ice Road Truckers. Todd runs into trouble when he and rival Darrell Ward hit a newly opened trail. Plus, Polar boss Mark pairs his new recruit with company wildcard Art Burke.
8.55 5 News Weekend.
9.00 FILM: Divergent (2014). Premiere. A teenager in a strictly ordered future society discovers a conspiracy to wipe out a group of outsiders. Sci-fi adventure, starring Shailene Woodley and Kate Winslet. Includes 5 News Update at 10pm.
11.45 FILM: Dead Man Down (2013). Premiere. A gangster plotting revenge on his own boss is blackmailed by a woman into murdering the man who disfigured her. Crime thriller, with Colin Farrell and Noomi Rapace.
1.50 SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team.
3.10 Raw Recruits: Squaddies at 16. The rookies take part in an exercise that will test their stamina and endurance. (R)
4.00 Criminals: Caught on Camera. Police officers monitor the activity of Soho's 100,000 nightly visitors. (R)
4.50 Nick's Quest. Endangered leatherback turtles. (R)
5.15 Nick's Quest. Mountain gorillas in Uganda. (R)
5.40 Angels of Jarm. Angel Ellie teaches a boy to just be himself at the nursery. (R)
5.50 Roary the Racing Car. Big Chris appears on TV. (R)

Our countryside is a haven for rare, beautiful owls

THERE can be few more secretive and enigmatic, yet simultaneously infamous and well-known creatures than that group of birds we call the owls.

There are in fact seven species of owl found in Britain. We will all be familiar with the three most recognisable species – the tawny, little and barn – but for the rest we need patience, luck... and a car.

Of the remaining four species, we can more or less discount two of them. The snowy owl and the European eagle owl are about as spectacular as birds get. The former is a beautiful species found into the Arctic Circle and hasn't bred in the UK since the 70s. However a few individuals fly over to northern Scotland every winter and armed with up-to-date information, you stand a very good chance of seeing them up there.

The European eagle owl is the largest owl in the world – a superb hunter with huge orange eyes and an earth-shattering stare. A small number of pairs of eagle owls are known to breed in Britain. While the origin of these birds is difficult to prove with certainty, there is no evidence that birds other than from released stock, or their offspring, have bred in Britain in recent times. These birds have been left unmolested although it is feared their presence could disrupt the existence of the rare hen harrier (as the two species share habitat) and therefore they are being carefully monitored at present.

The other two less-well-known species are the short-eared and long-eared owls. The short eared owl is another beautiful creature. A mid-sized owl, it is often viewed during the day – which makes a nice

ON THE WILDSIDE

with Ben Waddams



change. They are frequently spotted in the Shropshire in the winter and spring. This is partly due to the fact that there is an influx of continental birds (from Scandinavia, Russia and Iceland) at this time of the year. They are of European conservation concern and so are an Amber List species.

They have a good record here in Shropshire and are regularly seen in the winter and spring. It's also a great bonus to know that some of their favourite haunts (as a species) are often those iconic Shropshire landscapes that we as Salopians, native and adopted, are most proud of.

Firstly, the Stiperstones seems to be a good spot. This wonderful landscape of jagged and shattered rock is beautiful at the best of times. Throw in a short eared owl and you have a recipe for ornithological bliss.

They are also well recorded over Whixall Moss, a seemingly desolate bog (which is of course anything but) and fitting for the graceful flights of these fantastic birds. It also makes spotting them easier.

The long-eared owl is a slightly different kettle of fish. It is a small-medium-sized owl, smaller in size in fact than a woodpigeon. It often looks long and thin, with head feathers (known as ear tufts even though they are not ears) which it raises when alarmed, hence giving it its name. It favours a somewhat cooler climate than ours here in Shropshire but we do have a scattering of residents, as does Wales. The bulk of UK birds however are located in Scotland



Ben's painting The Intermission, an oil on board painting of a little owl pausing while hunting

and these birds migrate south each winter along with European birds. The few southern and midland birds are entirely resident and never "migrate". It is nocturnal and secretive yet it roosts communally and there is a reasonable amount of activity at these sites in the winter. So all in all, this forthcoming time of year is a great period to see

Shropshire's owls. With the leaves wilting away and the boundary between our daytime world and their night-time one (for the most part) becoming blurred, keep an eye out for these remarkable birds.

Ben will be exhibiting at the Great North West Art Show at Chester Town Hall on October 29.

Damages cash to hospital patients on the increase

THE amount of clinical negligence damages paid to patients at Shropshire's hospitals has more than doubled in a year.

Successful claims against Shrewsbury and Telford Hospitals NHS Trust in 2015/16 saw more than £7 million paid out – compared to just under £3 million the previous year.

However, the payouts do not necessarily relate to claims launched during the same period and could be from historic incidents.

Once legal costs are added, total payouts came to £11,085,465 last year. This was up from £5,293,302 the previous year.

The trust, which runs the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital and Princess Royal Hospital in Telford, pays an annual insurance premium to the NHS Litigation Authority, which then settles all claims made against the trust.

In 2015/16, the trust made contributions to cover them for clinical negligence totalling £10,065,345.

Now, hospital bosses insist patient safety is paramount and say they will make sure lessons are learnt.

Julia Clarke, director of corporate governance at The Shrewsbury and Telford Hospital NHS Trust, said: "The safety of our patients is paramount and we strive to provide the highest standards possible.

"Unfortunately, sometimes this is not the case and successful claims are made against the trust.

"When these happen we aim to ensure we learn and put the necessary steps in place to prevent adverse incidents happening in the future.

"The figures published by the NHS Litigation Authority do not reflect current care as many claims take a considerable time to settle and are therefore historic.

"The increase in figures may not necessarily reflect the claims submitted that year.

"A large portion of the claims that come through the trust have already been through our internal patient safety mechanisms and our complaints process which both focus on learning lessons to prevent such incidents happening again.

"Any new claims that are made are shared with our care groups as well, and any expert reports are also shared so that they can be discussed at our clinical governance meetings and any individual or wider lessons can be learnt."

Ian Adams, spokesman for the NHS Litigation Authority, said it can take several years for a clinical negligence claim to be settled.

He said: "We provide indemnity cover for legal claims against the NHS, including clinical negligence claims."



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MELANIE, 49yrs, varied interests, attractive, sensual lady seeks gent any age or status, call, see what happens. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 424337

HI Gents, I'm Kelly, a down to earth lady, 35yrs, shapely brunette, seeking someone with GSOH, looks unimportant, any age. ACA. I promise! Tel: 0906 515 3027 Box No: 423035

CALLING all Gentlemen! I'm Janet a mature solvent stylish lady, I'm waiting for you to call me so we can wine/dine and have some good times ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 424335

TARA, 35yrs, own business, well educated dark haired curly lady. Independent with no ties seeks "normal" chap for mutual pleasure. Tel: 0906 515 3035 Box No: 424385

BABS, single mum looking for adult companionship, any age/looks or status. Interested? Come on over to my place. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 424253

ELLA, 46, slim confident brunette, tired of spending lonely nights alone, seeking honest, romantic male to enjoy nights out, hopefully leading to more. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 424015

JESSIE, sophisticated, well educated brunette lady, 38yrs, WLTm man of any age for discreet chat, meetings and more. Age/looks unimportant must have GSOH. Box No: 4107857

HELLO Gents, I'm a mature attractive interesting lady, with gorgeous eyes. I'm smart, sophisticated, love theatre and films. Give me a call or text me. Looks unimportant must be kind. ACA. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 424331

CAROLINE, bored housewife 42, seeking a little excitement. Are you 30+ and discreet, if so ping me a text and give me a few details. Box: 4078682

SICK of being stuck on the shelf, Jenny, 45, attractive female seeks NS caring male 42-50 who feels the same to share adult companionship, meals in/out, possibly LTR. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 424225

ATTRACTIVE professional lady, 57, widow, likes dining out, country pubs, good conversation and laughter, seeks genuine professional gent, with a gosh with similar interests, to enjoy life with. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 424157

SENSUAL tactile, attractive female, long blonde hair, blue eyes, loves travel, wining/dining. WLTm genuine male for mutual companionship. Looks unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 424231

HI I'm Pam, 42, slim, blonde, green eyes, discreet, loves cuddles, seeking similar discreet tactile male for mutual friendship with benefits. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 424101

LOUISE, 39, tactile good-looking solvent female WLTm spontaneous male for holidays, spoiling and lots of fun times. Age/looks/status: unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 424055

NAOMI, 43, attractive fun loving female with lots of love to offer a genuine caring guy. Come on, lets share all the good things life has to offer together! Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 424085

CLARA, 32yr Irish lass working away from home and friends, lonely and looking for older male companionship with no ties or complications. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 424021

FEMALE 50, seeks male of similar age for friendly, possible relationship. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 350529

AMY 31yr old single mum, new to the area, looking to meet male companion to help make me settle in and feel special again, age/status unimportant. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 424051

TALL, slim and curvy woman, 57, attractive with GSOH and varied interests, seeks similar man 50-65 Bristol area, for discreet assignments. Text only Mailbox: 5546538

DIANE, loving and caring, young 72 year old, blond hair, brown eyes, smoker, looking for genuine male with gosh, for friendship. Walsall area. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 424025

VERY attractive intelligent blonde, 59, WLTm tall attractive solvent male. No Tattoos. South Yorks. Text only Mailbox: 5430085

JENNY, looking for a man, 45-55, for adult fun, must be discreet. Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 423827

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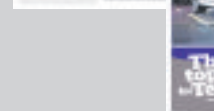
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2010 10	BMW 318D 2.0 M-SPORT 4 Door Saloon, Blue Metallic, 17" Double Spoke Alloy Wheels, 63,000 miles, £30 Road Tax	£9,999
2013 63	CITROEN C3 PICASSO VTR + 1.6 HDi, Red Metallic, 22,100 Miles, One Owner, £20 Road Tax	£7,299
2012 62	CITROEN DS3 1.6 HDi 3 Door Manual. Pale Blue, 1 Owner, 34,000 miles, FSH	£7,999
2014 64	DACIA DUSTER 1.5 DCi Manual, Black Metallic, Sat Nav, 32,000 Miles, FSH	£8,999
2014 14	FIAT PUNTO 1.25 ASY 3 Door, Grey Metallic, 23,700 Miles, Climate Control, Reversing Sensors, One Owner, FSH,	£5,999
2013 62	FORD B-MAX 1.4 ZETEC 5-door. Bronze, One Owner, 38,600 miles, FSH, Parking Sensors	£7,799
2013 13	FORD FIESTA 1.0 ECO BOOST ZETEC 3-door, 120 BHP, Blue, Rear Spoiler, 49,600 miles, Zero Road Tax	£8,499
2013 13	FORD FIESTA 1.6 TDCi ZETEC 5-door Manual. Bright Red, 28,000 miles, 1 Owner, FSH	£8,499
2015 64	FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC S TDCi 5 Door, Silver Metallic, One Owner, 11,800 Miles, Alloy Wheels, £20 Road Tax	SOLD
2013 13	FORD FOCUS ZETEC TURBO 5-door, Black, 41,700 miles, Air Conditioning, Privacy Glass, £20 Road Tax	£7,999
2008 58	FORD FUSION ZETEC DCi 5-door. Silver Metallic, 84,200 miles, FSH, £30 Road Tax	SOLD
2014 64	FORD KUGA TITANIUM X POWERSHIFT, 4 Wheel Drive, Blue Metallic, One Owner, Only 10,000 Miles, FSH	£18,999
2012 12	FORD MONDEO 1.6 TDi EDGE 5 Door Hatch Manual. Metallic Silver, 49,000 miles, FSH	£7,499
2010 10	HONDA CIVIC 1.8 Si 5 Door Manual. Red, 33,000 miles, FSH	£6,999
2015 64	HONDA CIVIC 1.6i Diesel SE+ Estate, Silver Metallic, One Owner, 5000 Miles, Reverse Camera, Zero Road Tax,	£13,499
2010 10	HONDA CRV ES 2.0i Manual 4x4. Metallic Black, only 39,000 miles, FSH	£9,999
2009 09	HYUNDAI i10 1.1 5-door Manual. Bright Red, 35,000 miles, Air Con, 2 Owners, £30 Road Tax	£3,999
2013 63	HYUNDAI i40 1.7 CDTi STYLE Manual, 5-door, Hatch, Metallic Grey, 36,000 miles, FSH	£10,499
2010 10	JAGUAR XF 3.0 V6 PREMIUM LUXURY 4 Door, Black with Black Leather, 47,000 Miles, Reverse Camera, FSH	SOLD
2008 08	LAND ROVER FREELANDER X5 2.2 TD4 Manual. Metallic Silver, Full Leather, FSH	£9,999
2006 06	LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2.2 S Manual, Black Metallic, 72,000 Miles, FSH	£9,999
2013 13	MERCEDES C220 SE EXECUTIVE AUTO ESTATE, Silver Metallic with Black Leather, Sat, Nav, FSH	SOLD
2012 12	MERCEDES C180 SE MANUAL Red Upgrade AMG Alloy Wheels, One Owner, 54,000 miles, FSH	£10,999
2009 59	MERCEDES E220 CDI SE AUTO Metallic Grey, Black Leather, 65,000 miles, FSH	£10,999
2011 11	MINI COOPER CLUBMAN 1.6 Diesel Estate, Black, 69,000 miles, FSH, £20 Road Tax,	£8,499
2011 61	MINI COOPER 2.0 SD CLUBMAN 5dr, Sat Nav, Red & Black, One Owner, 36,000 miles, FSH, £30 Road Tax	£11,999
2011 11	NISSAN QASHQAI N-TEC DCi 5 Door, Red Metallic, 19,900 miles, Sat Nav, Dual Climate Control, FSH	£10,499
2013 13	NISSAN QASHQAI 360 CVT 5 Door, Caffé Latte Bronze, 27,000 Miles, One Owner, FSH	SOLD
2013 13	NISSAN NOTE N-TEC + MPV, Blue Metallic, 15,000 Miles, ACC, Rear Sensors, Alloy Wheels	£5,999
2006 56	NISSAN NOTE Automatic Petrol. Café Latte Metallic, 73,000 miles	£3,499
2007 57	OPEL ANTARA CDTi 4WD MANUAL Metallic Blue, 74,000 miles	£7,499
2012 12	PEUGEOT 207 1.6 HDi Estate Manual. Red, 56,000 miles, FSH	£5,999
2015 65	PEUGEOT 108 ACTIVE 3-door. Blue, One Owner, Air Con, Bluetooth, 6200 miles, Zero Road Tax	£7,499
2013 13	PEUGEOT 308 1.6 HDi SPORT 5 door. Manual, Metallic Silver, 54,000 miles, One Owner	£6,999
2013 63	PEUGEOT 2008 1.6 HDi ALLURE White, 34,000 miles, FSH	£9,999
2007 07	PEUGEOT 207 CC 1.6 Convertible. Metallic Silver, Full Leather, 32,000 miles	£3,999
2012 61	RENAULT TWINGO 1.6 RS SILVERSTONE GP Red, 64,000 miles, 1 Owner, FSH	£4,799
2010 10	RENAULT CLIO DYNAMIQUE 1.5 DCi TOM TOM ESTATE, Silver Metallic, 51,400 Miles, £20 Road Tax	£4,999
2012 62	SEAT EXEO SE 2.0 TDi 4 Door, Black with Black Leather, 39,000 Miles, Sat Nav, Rear Sensors, FSH	£9,499
2012 62	SEAT IBIZA S 1.2 TDi 5-door, Silver Metallic, 25,300 miles, Air Con, Alloy Wheels, FSH, £20 Road Tax	SOLD
2012 61	SKODA FABIA 1.4 SE 5 Door, Blue, One Owner, 15,600 Miles, A/C, Rear Sensors, FSH	£5,999
2013 63	SKODA RAPID TSi SE 5 Door, Light Blue Metallic, 26,700 Miles, Air Conditioning, £30 Road Tax,	£6,999
2009 59	SKODA OCTAVIA TSi 5-door Automatic, Oyster Metallic, 62,000 miles, Climate Control, Air Con, Reversing Sensors, FSH	£5,999
2014 64	SUZUKI SX4 S-CROSS 1.6 Manual, Metallic Green, 1 Owner, 18,000 miles, FSH	£10,699
2007 07	TOYOTA RAV 4 XTR 4X4 Diesel Estate, Grey Metallic, 63,800 miles, 6 Speed Manual, Air Conditioning, FSH	SOLD
2013 13	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.0 S 5-door, Manual, Bright Red, 15,000 miles, FSH	£5,999
2012 62	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA 1.8 DESIGN. Manual, Bright Red, 1 Owner, 7 Seats, 29,000 miles	£6,999
2010 10	VAUXHALL ASTRA .16 EXCLUSIVE 5 Door, Green Metallic, 35,950 miles, One Family Owner, Air Con, Alloy Wheels, FSH	£5,999
2003 53	VAUXHALL VECTRA 2.2 SRI Manual, Silver Metallic, 63,000 Miles	£1,499
2015 15	VOLVO XC60 R-DESIGN AWD, White, Grey Leather, 52,500 miles, Full Spec, Sat Nav & 19" Diamond Cut Alloy Wheels,	£20,999
2012 61	VW CRAFTER LUTON VAN with Tail Lift Manual. White, 1 Owner, 55,000 miles, FSH	£11,499+VAT
2006 06	VW GOLF 1.4 5 door, Metallic Silver, Manual, 67,000 miles, FSH	£3,999
2008 58	VW PASSAT CC 1.8 TFSi MANUAL 58,000 miles, Metallic Silver, FSH	£6,750
2009 09	VW FOX 3 Door Manual. Metallic Silver, 49,000 miles	SOLD

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11 FORD MONDEO EDGE TDCI EST. SILVER, FULL SERV. HIST., ONE PREV. OWNER 64K.....	£7,495	
11 POLO SEL T6 90 1.6 S DR., SILVER, AC, ALLOY WHEELS ONE OWN, F.S.H. 30 ROAD TAX 55K.....	£6,995	
62 VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 1.6, BLACK, LEATHER SEATS, ALLOY WHEELS, AIR CON. 41K.....	£6,995	
62 FIESTA 1.4 TDCI ZETEC, 3 DOOR, SILVER, ALLOY WHEELS, AIR CON, TINTED WINDOWS 32K.....	£6,495	
ELECTRIC FOLDING MIRRORS £20 ROAD TAX.....	£6,495	
60 VAUX. ASTRA SRI CDTI 160 BHP 5 DOOR, SILVER, ALLOY WHEELS, CRUISE CONTROL 60K.....	£6,250	
12 SUZUKI SPLASH SZ4, BLUE, FULL SERVICE HISTORY, ONE OWNER £30 ROAD TAX 10K.....	£5,995	
63 FIAT PUNTO GBT, ORANGE, SERVICE HISTORY 11K.....	£5,975	
12 SKODA FABIA, SILVER, ONE OWNER, FULL SERVICE HISTORY 27K.....	£5,975	
10 VOLVO R-DESIGN 2.0 ESTATE, BLUE, SERVICE HISTORY, LEATHER SEATS 94K.....	£5,895	
61 CITROEN CA VTR+HDI 91, BLUE £20 ROAD TAX 49K.....	£5,695	
12 NISSAN MICRA AGENA 1.2, 5 DOOR, MET. RED, FULL SERVICE HISTORY £30 ROAD TAX 42K.....	£5,295	
60 TOYOTA YARIS TR 4D, BLUE, ALLOY WHEELS, AIR CON., SERV. HIST £20 ROAD TAX 68K.....	£4,995	
61 FORD KA 1.2 ZETEC, START/STOP, RED, SERVICE HISTORY £30 ROAD TAX 36K.....	£4,595	
60 PEUGEOT 207 S 1.4, 5 DOOR, BLACK, AIR CON, ELEC. WINDOWS, SERVICE HIST 36K.....	£4,350	
58 HONDA JAZZ I-VTECH EX, BLUE, FULL SERVICE HISTORY 52K.....	£4,650	
60 PEUGEOT MILLESIM 207 HDI, BLUE £30 ROAD TAX 55K.....	£4,195	
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09 PEUG.207 VERVE 1.4 S DR., BLUE, CO. AIR CON., ALLOY WHEELS, SERV. HIST. 49K.....	£3,695	
12 PEUGEOT 107 URBAN, RED, FULL SERVICE HISTORY, ONE OWNER, £20 ROAD TAX 34K.....	£3,495	
57 NISSAN NOTE AGENA 1.5 DCI, SILVER, ALLOY WHEELS, AIR CON., FULL SERV. HIST. 57K.....	£3,495	
59 Clio 1.2 EXTREME, 3 DR., BLUE, SERV.HIST, SERVICED, NEW CAM BELT, 2 NEW TYRES 62K.....	£3,250	
07 FORD FOCUS STYLE DIESEL, GREY, SERVICE HISTORY 61K.....	£3,265	
58 PEUGEOT 308 VERVE, RED, FULL SERVICE HISTORY, 51K.....	£3,195	
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15 FORD FIESTA 1.5 TDCI Titanium, Diesel, Grey Metallic, low mileage.....	SOLD	
15 FORD FIESTA ZTEC 1.5 TDCI, Red.....	SOLD	
63 TOYOTA AYGO Mode VTL, Red, low mileage.....	£4995	
13 FORD FIESTA 1.5 TDCI, Titanium Red.....	£5995	
59 FORD FIESTA 1.5 TDCI, Diesel.....	£3,995	
57 BMW X3 Si SE, Grey Metallic, Vehicle Must Be Seen.....	£5,895	
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12 VW POLO 1.2 SE Black, 3-door, 56,000 miles.....	£5995	
61 VAUXHALL CORSA EXCITE 1.2 Red, lady owner.....	Only £3995	
11 MAZDA 2 SPORT 1.8 Diesel, white, Alloys, Sports Trim, Air Con.....	£5995	
61 MINI ONE 1.6 Diesel, White, previous local owner, must be seen.....	SOLD	
61 FIAT 500 POP 1.2, White.....	£3995	
57 SUZUKI SWIFT SPORT 1.6, Black, low mileage.....	£3795	
55 VAUXHALL VECTRA Exclusive 1.8 Red Metallic.....	£2995	
55 VW SE TOURAN 7 Seater, Diesel.....	SOLD	
55 FORD FIESTA FLAME 5-dr Silver.....	£2495	
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Motoring



Mixed views but Dacia delivers for its price tag

Joining the 4X4 market can be a tricky experience, particularly if buying new – but all that changed with the arrival of the Dacia Duster.

Since the arrival of the budget-priced SUV more and more people have found the door open to 4X4 driving and with an on-the-road price tag of £14,495 it's easy to see why.

Let's get straight to the point. This is no high performance, luxury off-roader. In fact Dacia forgot to fit air conditioning to the Ambiance Prime dCi 110, 1500cc model on test, not ideal for a 300 mile round-trip for three occupants on the hottest day of the year.

No, it's fair to say you get just what you pay for. And nowhere else would you get a new 4X4 at this pricing, particularly one just voted fourth most reliable car brand by Which? Car Survey out of 34 manufacturers.

And while not luxurious the test car did come with ABS, ESC, ASR, all-round airbags, engine immobiliser, remote central locking, power steering, Eco mode, and a Stop/Start system.

The Ambiance model also gets metallic paint, 16" alloys, body coloured front and rear bumpers, front fogs, height adjustable driver's seat, 60/40 folding rear seats, Bluetooth, USB con-

nection and a 4x200 Radio with CD player including CD reader.

It still falls a long way short of what you get from a Renault Captur or Nissan Qashqai, but you wouldn't get through their showroom doors if you only had £15,000 of your hard earned cash to spend on a set of wheels.

The 1.5 diesel with a six-speed gearbox is probably a better choice than the 1.6 petrol and achieved close on 60mpg over a week's motoring with a top speed of 104mph and 0-62mph in 12.4seconds. Dacia claim CO2 figures of 123g/km and the vehicle falls into 10A insurance grouping.

Spongy is probably the best word to describe the suspension and Dacia bosses have been careful not to use the word sporty in any description of this model.

The model was comfortable enough on both motorway and country road, though there was no opportunity to test off-road on this occasion.

The four-wheel drive version on test came with a selectable system allowing you to choose front-wheel-drive, automatic or a 50/50 front and rear set-up though the vehicle is not as refined as the Suzuki or Citroen alternatives and doesn't give the driver too much confidence on bends.

A lot of drivers are attracted to 4X4 because of the raised driver's position and Dacia ticks the right boxes there

with good all-round vision for the driver and passengers.

Everything about the dashboard is simple, reflecting the value of the vehicle. The controls are adequate and everything is exactly where you would expect it to be but as one passenger pointed out "it all looks a bit dated" inside.

And it's also far from the most comfortable vehicle I've driven this year. Probably the opposite in fact. It's easy to see that savings have been made on the seating and everyone who travelled in the Dacia during the week-long test complained about the hardness.

The 4X4 benefits from a huge boot with 408 litres of space, increasing to over 1,600 litres with the seats folded. That's plenty for most families, whether off camping for the weekend or simply taking the kids to play football.

The duster is not an ugly car, in fact it's quite distinctive, and with its reliability award is certainly the best and cheapest way to enter the 4X4 sector for buyers with a limited budget.

Will it vanish in the same way that other cheaper option such as Lada did?

I don't think so. With the substantial clout of both Renault and Nissan behind it the Dacia brand could be here to stay.

Adding air conditioning as standard might just help.



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High fives as Guils hit heights for cup success

FIVE star Guilsfield eased into the second round of the Huws Gray Cup after inflicting a 5-1 beating on Gresford Athletic in the first round at Clos Mytton.

Playing their third cup game in 10 days, it was a surprisingly straight forward passage for the Guils who took charge with four first half goals.

The hosts were soon in their stride, missing an early chance, before Jake Cook grabbed the opener on seven minutes.

Adam Jenkins then continued his good run of form with a brace on 13 and 16 minutes as the Guils showed real intent and energy in the first half, before James Henderson headed a fourth on 34

The defender then scored at the other end when putting into his own net from 30 yards just before half time to give Gresford a glimmer of hope.

However, the Guils ended any slim hope of a visitors' fightback by getting a fifth goal through Louis Irvine 10 minutes into the second half.

LLANFAIR UNITED also made an early exit as they succumbed 2-1 at Flint Town United despite a gutsy display.

Paul Griffiths gave them a 32nd minute lead with a fine strike from outside the box, before the home side turned it around through Kyle Smith (41) and Richard Foulkes (69).

"Flint deserved to win, they are a decent side, but we had chances and gave it a good go," said boss Rhys Stephens. "We showed good workrate and energy, ad there were far more positives than negatives."

Caersws conceded two own goals as they went out of the Huws Gray Cup with a 3-0 defeat at home to Caernarfon Town.

The depleted Bluebirds had their chances and had better of the first half, but Paul Grant put into his own net right on half time.

Elliot Jones' free kick was kept out by a fine save, while Will Thomas and Iwan Lewis also went close in the second period.

However, Elliot Jones bundled in a second own goal on 71 minutes before Kevin Lloyd sealed the win eight minutes from time.

Saturday's fixtures (2.30).

Buckley Town v Holywell Town, Caernarfon Town v Conwy Borough, Guilsfield v Ruthin Town, Holyhead Hotspur v Caersws, Mold Alex v Llanfair Utd, Penrhyncoch v Gresford Athletic, Porthmadog v Flint Town United.

Waterloo in mood to reel in top spot

WATERLOO Rovers are looking menacing in second spot in the JT Hughes Montgomeryshire League division one after stepping up the pressure with a 4-0 win at Newtown Rovers.

They are now seven points behind leaders Llanfyllin Town, but have three games in hand on the pacesetters who went down 2-0 at Morda United who themselves are now up to third.

BERRIEW RES are up to fourth after their 2-0 home success against **GUILSFIELD RES**, who have slipped to fifth spot.

Defending champions **LLANFAIR RES** lost more ground after suffering a 3-1 reverse at home to Llanymynech, Ash Davies getting their reply.

Results

Division one: Berriew res 2 Guilsfield res 0, Llanfair res 1 Llanymynech 3, Llanfhaeadr res 1 Caersws res 1, Morda Utd 2 Llanfyllin Town 0, Newtown Rovers 0 Waterloo Rovers 4

Division two: Abernuleu res 2 Trefonen 2, Carno res 5 Maesyrhandir 1, Kerry res 3 Llangelynnyn 0, Newtown Wanderers 1, Trevern Utd 1, Waterloo Rovers res v Bishop's Castle (postponed), Welshpool Town res 4 Llanfchain 2

Mixed start for Oswestry tennis team

OSWESTRY Tennis Club's mixed second team opened their Shropshire Autumn League season with a disappointing 6-2 loss against Market Drayton.

Their first pairing of captain Gary Edwards and Speth Cumpston faced their Drayton counterparts first up and, although taking their strong opponents to a second set tie-break, eventually went down 3-6, 6-7.

The second pairing of Saffron Rainey and his new partner Carolyn Yates played some terrific tennis and swept away the Drayton second pair in dominant fashion in straight sets 6-4, 6-2. They then went into battle with opposing first pairing, but succumbed 2-6, 2-6.

Edwards and Cumpston then played the Drayton second pairing in what turned out to be the deciding rubber.

They made a poor start and dropped the first set

3-6, before finding their form to storm the second set 6-1 and completed the rubber victory with a championship tie-break victory bang on the 10pm floodlight shut-off time.

Although winning this rubber made the result all square at two rubbers each, the set dropped by Edwards and Cumpston proved crucial with Drayton winning the tie by five sets to four and so gaining a six points to two victory.

After this loss, the team made amends by decisively beating Lilleshall Village in their second fixture.

The Oswestry first pairing of Edwards and Cumpston convincingly defeated the Lilleshall first duo in straight sets 6-3, 6-2 and then watched the team's second pair of Saffron Rainey and Carolyn Yates wrap up their epic battle against their second string opposition.

It proved a real battle, but the Os duo showed true

grit and determination to grind down their rivals before eventually winning 6-4, 7-5.

The reverse rubbers proved to be close affairs, both going to third set super tie-breaks.

Edwards and Cumpston came back from a set behind to win 4-6, 6-2, 1-0 and Rainey and Yates, having made a storming start by winning their first set 6-1 then let it slip in the second.

They lost the set 3-6 before recapturing their dominance in the super tie-break, winning it convincingly to give them the maximum eight points.

Oswestry's fourth team have been really struggling with player injuries and unavailability and had to call on Andy Clarke from the fifth team to partner Carol Slater, while captain Linda Davies partnered debutant Craig Southern when they played their home fixture against Shrewsbury III.

With both partnerships playing together for the first time, the opposition proved too strong.

Pool and COBRA are both knocked out

RUGBY by John Bridgwater

DESPITE a late fightback, Welshpool's hopes of making progress in the WRU Bowl this season were scuppered as they were edged out 23-20 at home to Bangor University in their second round tie.

Pool had found themselves trailing far much of the game as the students made the most of an open, loose game to surge ahead in their trip to Maesdyre.

The young visitors led 8-3 at the break, with a penalty followed by an unconverted try, while Pool responded with a penalty from Tom Williams midway through the half.

The university then looked home and dry when extending the advantage to 20-3 with a couple of touchdowns early in the second period.

However, once they kept it tight through their forwards, Pool enjoyed greater reward and clawed their way back to reduce the deficit, only for their efforts to fall narrowly short.

Tom Manuel got the first of his two tries on the hour, which went unconverted, and Ryan Goodwin then crossed on 72 minutes, with Williams providing the extras to reduce the arrears to 20-15.

Tough day

The students then kicked a penalty to give themselves some breathing space, before Manuel went over for his second touchdown in the last minute to put the hosts in touching distance.

However, it all proved late, with Bangor progressing to the third round, while Welshpool now return to action in the North Two East on Saturday as they bid to get back to winning form at home to Machynlleth.

Meanwhile, Welshpool Youth, with just 13 players, suffered a tough day when they went down 61-22 against their Mold counterparts in the North Wales Youth division two

COBRA'S excursion into the WRU Plate this season came to an early end after suffering a narrow 9-7 first round exit at home to North Wales League division one rivals Bethesda.

Despite the defeat, it was a good response after the previous week's 40-3 loss away to Mold that kept the Meifod side deep into basement danger.



COBRA try scorer Lee Hughes powers forward in his side's narrow defeat.

It proved a tight game throughout against Bethesda who kicked three penalties in the first half to open up a 9-0 lead at the interval.

COBRA hit back after the break with a try form youth team captain and flanker Lee Hughes, who was

playing his first game for the senior side. Fly half Rhodri Jones supplied the conversion.

Despite the response, their determined efforts failed to force a win as the visitors held firm to keep their flag flying in the competition.

Shropshire throwers just off target

DARTS by Craig Birch

It was all square going into the men's B ties, but the West of England surged ahead through a 9-3 victory. Shropshire found themselves 6-1 down despite the best efforts of Peter Eley (22.80), who beat Gary Grimmitt (22.04) 3-1.

Zach Quinn caught the eye for the West of England, top scoring with 26.84 in a 3-0 landslide over Tim Eley (18.57). Adrian Williams also hit two 180s for them, gleaming 23.32 in a 3-2 verdict at the expense of the spirited Royston Minton (21.42).

Robert Thompson top scored for Shropshire, with 32.01 as he came out on top 3-2 against Kieran Grimmitt (23.10).

Robert Trumper also landed a maximum in their other reply, averaging 20.49 in a 3-2 win over Alan Skinner (20.42).

Shropshire clawed back some of the deficit through their women's A line-up, who prevailed 4-2 to cut the advantage to 14-10.

Stephanie Clarke led the way with 20.04 in a 3-0 whitewash of Jackie Skinner (18.21), while Jayne Fitzgerald replied with 15.14 over a 3-1 success

against Sue Lane (13.65). Shropshire's Kat McLean also landed the match's first 180, finishing with 17.89 in a 3-0 shut-out of Louise Ballantyne (14.72).

It made the men's A finale a must-win for Shropshire but they could only match the 9-3 loss that befell their B contemporaries as play moved to a best-of-seven format.

The home side lost seven games in a row after the opener, where Brian Hickman (20.63) had seen off Mike Johnson (19.25) 4-2.

John Cooper (20.59) even hit a 180 in defeat for Shropshire, going down 4-2 to Paul Fellows (25.31). Andre Knox (25.38) did likewise in a 4-0 drubbing to Andrew White (29.91).

PDC World Championship runner-up Mark Dudbridge starred for the visitors, racking up 32.85 in a 4-0 whitewash of Paul Bromley (21.15) Shropshire picked up a couple of wins towards the finish, Danny James producing their final reply with 26.25 in a 4-2 vanquishing of Wayne Allen (25.21). James hit two 180s.

Shropshire went down 26-13 overall, counting three extra points for the West of England as the winning county. They next travel to Clwyd on October 29-30.

The latest returns from Shropshire golf clubs

ARSCOTT

Travistock Cup: A Mullineux, J Mullineux, B Griffiths, L Griffiths 39pts.

HAWKSTONE PARK

Alex Lyle Memorial Trophy: L Ollerenshaw 80-86=72; A Burdock 77-56=72; K Atkinson 89-120=79.

September Stableford Division 1: A Burdock 37pts; A Porter 36pts; S Smith 36pts. Division 2: B Williams 38pts; S Lock 32pts; I Vickerstaff 32pts.

October Medal Division 1: I Balmforth 78-66=72; J Hampson 89-136=72; S Mills 87-126=75. Division 2: C Jaundrell 87-156=72; C Payne 99-276=72; D O'Callaghan 93-206=73.

Seniors' Kiran Kapur Trophy (Over 2 Rounds): B Parker 40-32=72; D Brierley 41+31=72; C Ashley 35+32=67.

Juniors' September Medal: T Baache 100-236=77; A Smith 105-166=89.

HILL VALLEY

A J & B Minshall Cup Overall Winner: B Sierstema, J A Williams (Hill Valley) 89-15=74. Overall Runner-Up: M E Cowles, S Lockett (Hill Valley) 90-16=74. Overall Third: A De Barro, S Wynn (Hill Valley) 95-18=77. Fourth: J Cooke, S De Baro (Hill Valley) 103-22=81. Fifth place: C Ellwood, R Wynn (Hill Valley) 93-12=81.

LILLESALL HALL

Ladies' Putter Winner: T Dugmore 37. Runner-Up: B Miclewright 32.

Dot Gray Brooch Winner: J Lawson. Runner-Up: R Belcher.

Medal Winner: M Terry 82. Jubilee Cup Winner: A Drewnicki 34. Runner-Up: D Austin 33.

LLANYMYNECH

Ladies' Greensome Stableford Winners: R Pritchard and G Davies 41pts. Runners-Up: N Hughes and M Beckett 35pts.

MARKET DRAYTON

Monthly Stableford: L Holman 39; P Redfern 37; P Whitehurst 37.

Golf Club Cup: S Hughes 68; P Hamer 68; N Huston 70.

Minshall Cup Medal Winners: A Grace 70; C Bates 74; T Yale 76.

Ladies' Stableford: B Yendole 36; H Brady 33; I Clarke 31.

Basford Bowl 2: H Taylor 77; J Wilson 79; J Barker 81.

Sept Medal 2 & Breakthrough Brooch: J Harris 75; B Yendole 77; H Dickson 77.

OSWESTRY

Eric Evans Salver: R Rolfe 90-22=68 and G Hughes 78-10=68 (play-off); A Shannon 80-10=70; J Hewett 77-6=71 (cb); J Griffiths 85-14=71 (cb); C Manning 85-14=71.

October Medal Division 1: J M Jones 73-6=67; D Probert 71-2=69 (cb); R Rees 76-7=69; J Woodward 75-5=70 (cb); G Evans 70-0=70 (cb); J Poole 76-6=70. Division 2: M Gould 81-13=88; M Hetherall 84-14=70; G Griffiths 85-14=71 (cb); G Richards 84-13=71; I Pearce 83-11=72; R Roberts 85-12=73 (cb). Division 3: J Delaney 88-21=67; D Giles 89-19=70; M Edge 88-17=71; S Pearce 88-16=72; M Hughes 91-18=73 (cb); J Gallagher 95-22=73 (cb). Best Gross: G Evans 70.

Ladies' EG Medal Silver Division: K Wallace 92-20=72; A Kynaston 91-18=73; V Bradbeer 78- 4=74. Bronze Division: A Garbett 95-24=71; E Gwilt 98-25=73; J Jones 98-22=76. Upper Bronze Division: J Williams 116-36=80; E Jones 112-31=81 (cb); J Bucknall 112-31=81.

THE BROW

Monthly Medal Winner: P Barker 80-18=62. Best Gross: M Clark 76. Division 1: T Williams 78-14=64; K Fairbank 78-11=67; Division 2: K Abbott 85-19=66; J Williams 88-20=68.

WREKIN

Seniors' Pre-AGM 9 Hole Medal: B English 9/35; P Lewins 8/36; I Smith 7/36.

Guils hopes dashed by local rivals

GUILSFIELD failed to spring a surprise after bowing out of the Nathaniel MG Cup with a 3-0 exit against Powys rivals Newtown at Clos Mytton.

The Robins arrived with just one win in the Welsh Premier this season, their last victory coming in the previous round of the cup, but proved too strong for their Cymru Alliance hosts.

They never looked back once home defender Sam Lichfield glanced a threatening Neil Mitchell cross into his own net after 31 minutes.

Jason Oswell chipped keeper Dave Littleford for the second just after the break and Luke Boundford sealed the win on the hour.

Guilsfield, who defeated Welsh Premier side Airbus UK 2-1 in the previous round, started brightly as Chris Cathrall fired a free-kick over, then dragged a shot wide, before the full-back and Adam Jenkins had efforts blocked.

After the own goal gave Newtown the advantage, Jenkins nearly grabbed an instant reply, while at the other end Mitchell spurned a golden chance of doubling the lead when chipping tamely into keeper Littleford's hands.

The Robins finished the half strongly, and strengthened their grip soon after the break through Oswell's chip before adding a third when Boundford latched onto a precise through ball.

Morda are merrier as they down the leaders



Josh Thomas kept a clean sheet for Morda with some fine saves

IN an entertaining game, two superb goals from Paul Hughes and a battling team performance saw Morda United secure a deserved 2-0 victory over JT Hughes Montgomeryshire League division one leaders Llanfyllin Town.

The high flying visitors had two late chances to claim a draw but were unable to breach a determined Morda defence in which keeper Josh Thomas starred.

Early play saw both defences on top, before the first chance of the game fell to Llanfyllin's Khyam Huyton who was thwarted by a great point blank save from Josh Thomas.

Morda then began to create chances themselves with Liam Smith, Harry Davies and Kyle Wilson all having goal bound shots saved by Keith Phillips in the Town goal.

The Weston Road side then took the lead shortly before half time when Hughes found the net in superb fashion following a cross from the left.

The league leaders came out for the second period showing more resolve and Morda were indebted to Josh Thomas for keeping the home goal intact with two fine saves.

Gradually they came back into the game but failed to double their lead when Dylan Ellis's penalty for a trip on Paul Hughes was saved by the keeper Paul Phillips.

Morda's hopes of retaining their single goal lead suffered a jolt when they were reduced to ten men after striker Ollie Jackson was unable to continue following a tackle from behind.

Llanfyllin tried to make their numerical advantage count but two late headers went wide of the goal.

Five minutes into stoppage time, the victory was secured for Morda when Hughes finished accurately after a good move involving Jack Jones and Liam Smith.

Buoyed by the win over the league leaders, the Weston Road side now travel to mid-table Berriew Reserves on Saturday as they look to keep up the good work.

Curtains for Scots as Draper hits three

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

HAT-TRICK hero Greg Draper again hit the goal trail as The New Saints reached the quarter-finals of the IRN-BRU Scottish Cup with a hard-earned 3-1 passage at Forfar Athletic.

Flying their flag for the first time in the competition, the Welsh Premier pacesetters were made to dig deep in the second half at Station Park before Draper again proved his worth in front of goal.

The New Zealander had given the visitors a deserved 24th minute lead after latching onto a long ball upfield from keeper Paul Harrison, only for Stuart Malcolm to head in a leveller for the Scottish League division two leaders seven minutes before the break.

Forfar looked far more menacing in a scrappy second half, but the Saints held firm before finishing strongly to complete a memorable win.

The in-form Draper struck twice in the last 10 minutes to complete his hat-trick after respective assists from sub Robbie Parry and Aeron Edwards as the Saints became the first non-Scottish side to reach the last eight of the Scottish Challenge Cup.

Boss Craig Harrison was delighted with the success, but admitted his side had been made to work hard for their passage against physical opponents despite a dominant start.

"Greg had three chances, and took all three, and again showed what a clinical striker he is," he said.

"It's a tough place to come, we're away from home against a physical and very direct Scottish team, so the players deserve a lot of credit.

"We controlled the game up until they scored, which took the wind out of our sails for a time. Credit to Forfar who put us under pressure, but we got back to our passing game and finished the game well."

Smart save

The Saints, eight points clear at the top of the Welsh Premier, had gone into the tie in great shape on the back of 11 straight domestic wins, 10 in the league and one in the league cup.

And they were soon on the front foot as Alex Darlington, buoyed by his brace against Bala Town in midweek, forced goalkeeper Grant Adam into a smart save with his 20-yard effort.

TNS then spurned a good opening when Edwards was left unmarked from corner but failed to find the target with his headed effort.

The Oswestry side were dominating possession, and deservedly took the lead after 23 minutes, although it was tinged by controversy.

Forfar were convinced they had won a corner, but a goal-kick was awarded that was swiftly taken by keeper Paul Harrison and his long kick fell to Draper, who controlled the ball before slipping it beyond Adam from an angle.

After the goal, TNS struggled to maintain their early momentum, although they spurned two further chances to increase their lead before Forfar hit back.

Josh Peters forced a save from Harrison in the TNS goal, but from the resultant corner, Malcolm powered a header in off the bar.

Buoyed by the leveller, Forfar looked a different proposition after the break as they enjoyed better possession and created more opportunities.

Jim Lister was twice foiled in the same move,

Saints are off to Bangor in cup



TNS midfielder Aeron Edwards on the ball during the Nathaniel MG Cup win over Bala last week

HOLDERS The New Saints face a tricky trip to old adversaries Bangor City later this month in the quarter-finals of the Nathaniel MG Cup.

The Saints will be looking to lift the trophy for a third season in a row, but standing in their way of a place in the semis are the Citizens.

Although they won 4-0 away in the Welsh Premier last month, the league leaders are certain to face a stiffer proposition in the cup tie at Nantporth.

Newtown have been drawn at home to Carmarthen Town, who

lifted the trophy in 2013 and 2014, while gap Connah's Quay entertain Rhyl in another all-Welsh Premier tie.

The other pairing sees two lower league sides come face to face when Barry Town United entertain fellow giantkillers Haverfordwest County at Jenner Park.

Both clubs beat Welsh Premier opposition in the last around, the Dragons overcoming Cardiff Met 1-0 and the Bluebirds seeing-off Aberystwyth Town by the same scoreline.

All ties are scheduled to be played on Tuesday 25 October.

Meanwhile, in the first round of the Central Wales Cup, **WATERLOO ROVERS** face a testing trek to New Quay while **FOUR CROSSES** are also on the road, but much closer to home away to Llanymynech.

Full draw
Central Wales Challenge Cup round one: Bishop's Castle v Aberystwyth University, Langedwyn v Chruchoke, Kerry v Lampeter Town, Builth Wells v Penybont, New Quay v Waterloo Rovers, Cilgerran Rovers v Newbridge, Brecon Northcote v Llanfyllin Town, Trevern v Llanilar, Llanymynech v Four Crosses.

Eyes to round two: Dolgellau, Llansantffraid Village, Presteigne, Borth, Dyffryn Banw. Ties to be played on Saturday, October 29 (1.30).

while keeper Harrison produced a fingertip save to deny Jamie Bain.

Forfar, who suffered their first defeat the week before, continued to press and a powerful Martyn Fotheringham free-kick just finished the wrong side of the post.

But the appearance of Robbie Parry on the hour turned the tide back in TNS's favour, with the substitute setting up the second goal on 83 minutes when his shot was turned in by the predatory Draper.

The marksman then secured his hat-trick three minutes from the end when Adam misjudged a long

ball from Edwards and the striker rounded the keeper to slot home to seal the victory.

"Bala Town, who were also invited into the competition after finishing runners-up to champions TNS last term, bowed out 4-2 at home to Scottish League division one promotion chasers Alloa Athletic.

They paid the price for a poor first half display in their fourth round tie, finding themselves 3-0 down at the break, before improving in the second period.

Despite replies from Lee Hunt (penalty) and Stuart J Jones, their efforts fell short as they succumbed at the first hurdle.

Matthews hits hat-trick for Llanrhaeadr

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

The Lilywhites had hoped for a timely boost following their struggles this season that sees them languishing at the basement of the Spar Mid Wales League division one.

But it proved a disappointing night as they succumbed to their second division visitors after failing to deliver in the penalty shoot-out.

Kerry, challenging in the Spar League division two, maintained their fine campaign as they overcame first division Llanidloes Town 5-3 on penalties after the encounter at Victoria Avenue had finished 1-1 following extra time.

Llani had led early in the second period through Rhys Evans, but the Lambs took the game into the extra period courtesy of a last-gasp eveller from Drew Hughes whose shot from distance slipped through the grasp of keeper Jake Brown.

It was tense in the shootout before Mark Probert converted the decisive kick, after Rhys D Evans had missed a spot kick for Llani.

In another tie that went to penalties, Llandrindod Wells edged out derby rivals Builth Wells 4-2 on spot

kicks after being locked at 1-1.

FOUR CROSSES were another casualty as they crashed 4-0 a home to first division Knighton Town, Carno progressed 3-1 at Presteigne, while struggling **MONTGOMERY** conceded their tie at Hay St Mary's.

Borth United went out 2-1 at home to Machynlleth, while Dolgellau won by the same score against visitors Tywyn Brynrcrug.

Rhayader Town, flying high in the first division, proved too strong at Newbridge where they ran out 4-0 winners with Dan Goodman, Jonny Jones, Lee Harley and Richie Powell on target.

After suffering four straight defeats, **DYFFRYN BANW** eased their basement worries in division two with a timely 3-2 one success against Abermule.

Jamie Huxley, Arwel Jones and Richie Williams put them three up before he visitors clawed back a couple of replies.

Aberaeron moved up to third in division one after hitting back to secure a 2-1 success at Radnor Valley who had led through a Joey Price goal.

Second round draw: Bow Street v Chruchoke, Knighton Town v Rhayader Town, Carno v Aberaeron, Llanrhaeadr v Machynlleth, Dolgellau v Abermule, Radnor Valley v Dyffryn Banw, Llandrindod Wells v Kerry, Berriew v Hay St Mary's. Ties to be played on Saturday, November 19.

Town are downed by Widnes in the cup

A **QUICKFIRE** hat-trick from Chris Lomax sentenced FC Oswestry Town to an early exit in the Reusch North West Counties League first division cup when downed 4-1 at home to Widnes.

The striker scored his first two goals inside just four minutes, and completed his treble on 24 to put the Cheshire hosts in full charge at Park Hall.

Town threatened a fightback with some spirit in the second half when Tommy Lewis pulled one back five minutes after the break, but a fourth goal from Matthew Rigby moments later ensured Widnes sealed their second round place.

A few days before, an injury time strike sentenced FC Oswestry to a 1-0 defeat at high-flying City of Liverpool in the Hallmark North West Counties League division one. Town looked to have earned a battling point but were edged out when the Merseysiders struck through Matthew Williams three minutes into injury time.

Now 13th in the table, the Oswestry outfit face a trip to West Yorkshire on Saturday to take on Silsden who lie three points above in ninth spot.

FC OSWESTRY TOWN RES maintained their unbeaten run in the Mercian Regional League division one when a late reply earned them a 3-3 draw against Craven Arms at Weston Rhyn.

Town started quickly with Mark Lunt having a good early opportunity saved well, but they soon found themselves two goals down.

The first came after half clearing a corner, the ball being crossed in for Nathan Giles to finish, which was followed by a 35-year wonder strike from former Ludlow Town forward Aaron Hodge.

This sparked the hosts who took control of the game with Scott Vally missing the target from the edge of the box, before they equalised through a Craven Arms own goal after Paul Bache's low cross deflected off a defender into his own net.

Town kept pushing forward and they got their rewards on 35 minutes when Lunt beat the offside trap to net his first goal for the club.

However, the south Shropshire visitors were back in front at the break when Dale Hodge found the net to end a frantic first period.

After the interval, the Oswestry side dominated the game with Rob Shone, at the heart of the defence, starting many of the attacks.

However, they finally got the equaliser they deserved two minutes from time through Ward who latched onto Shone's pass.

In the same division, **ST MARTIN'S VILLAGE** succumbed 4-2 at home to Madeley Sports to remain in the lower half of the table.

Depleted **GOWEN CELTIC** were pipped 6-5 in an 11-goal thriller away to Clee Hill as they lost more ground in the Mercian premier division to slip into fourth spot. Rich Morris and Joe Pierpoint both scored twice, Rich Hardy getting the other.

Morris gets the turkey at Welshpool

IT'S only October but Kevin Morris already has his Christmas turkey booked at Welshpool Golf Club.

On Saturday Morris headed a strong field with a fine medal round of 68 in the Turkey Trail edging out Vincent Owen with 69. Thurd was Peter Brooks with 71.

On Sunday, the scoring was steadier for the Stableford competition with Stephen Morris taking winning on count-back with 36 points from Dale Hardy with David Pretty third.

Sue Shemilt won the seniors' swindle with a 39 points. Keith Roberts came second with 37, just pipping Deryck Arthur on 36.

An away day was held at Northop Hall where Keith Roberts continued his good form winning with 37 points, 'Dibby' Davies was second with 36 just beating Ray Bowen.

IWAN Matthews was again among the goals with a hat-trick as Llanrhaeadr swept aside Aberystwyth University to seal their place in the second round of the Spar Mid Wales League Cup.

Iain Edmunds put the villagers on course when curling home a shot on 15 minutes and Matthews then opened his account after shrugging off the defence to break through and score.

Keeper Connor Lee made a smart save to deny Henry Nicholson at the other end, before Tom Evans headed home an Edmunds corner close to half time to make it 3-0 at the break.

Two goals soon after the restart from Matthews settled the issue, the striker finding the net on 53 and 55 minutes to wrap up his treble.

And the scoring was completed on the break seven minutes from time as substitute Ryan Broadbent converted as the students were handed a lesson.

BERRIEW also powered through as they toppled **LLANSANTFFRAID VILLAGE** 4-0 at Telfon with goals from Matt Mumford, Steff Rogers, Jamie Rocketry and Darryl Jones

WELSHPOOL bowed out at the first hurdle, losing 3-1 on penalties to Chruchoke after their tie had finished 2-2 at Maesydyre.

Ladies side hit six of the beat in Cup

THE New Saints Ladies had a battle on their hands before keeping their flag flying in the SSE Women's Cup with a 6-2 third qualifying round win against Shrewsbury Juniors at Suden Sports Village.

The sides had been 1-1 at the end of normal time, with the Shrewsbury side more than matching their visitors.

But the Saints surged clear in the extra period to maintain their interest in the competition, and now take their place in the fourth qualifying round which will be played on November 13.

Earlier in the week, the Saints slumped 5-1 away to Sporting Khalsa Women to drop down to sixth position in the FA Midlands Women's League Midlands division one

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Llanfair and Guils seeking league points

AFTER their cup exploits, both Guilsfield and Llanfair United return to the task of picking up points in the Huws Gray Cymru Alliance on Saturday.

The Guils, who swept aside Gresford Athletic 5-1 in the league cup last weekend, hope to take that form into their home fixture with lowly Ruthin Town as they look to make up ground on the leading pack.

Boss Dan Barton praised his side's efforts, particularly in the first half which saw them score four times to effectively put the tie to bed.

"We missed a one-on-one in the first minute and I thought it was going to be one of those days again, but it was a really good performance in the first half with a lot of intensity and energy.

"It was a good reaction from the defeat to Newtown in midweek, but we now need to get a run going in the league."

Top scorer Adam Jenkins picked up another booking which means he is likely to be suspended for his side's big game away to defending champions Caernarfon Town the following week.

As they look to continue their push to safety, LLANFAIR UNITED face a crucial trip to lowly Mold Alex who have bolstered their side after a tough start to the season.

"We know we're going to have to play well, but we can go there with confidence on the back of our last few performances," said manager Rhys Stephens.

"If we play like we can, then we can give anyone a game in this league."

Llanfair's hopes of progressing in the Huws Gray Cup were ended with 2-1 exit at Flint Town United, but Stephens remained upbeat.

"They are a good side, but we showed good workmate and energy, and gave it a good go," he said. "It was a decent performance, and there were far more positives than negatives."

Eagles looking for elusive first win

OSWESTRY'S rugby players continue their pursuit of a first win in the Cheshire and South Lancs One when they visit fellow strugglers Anselmians on Saturday.

The Eagles prop up the table with five straight defeats, while this weekend's Wirral hosts are just two places above with one victory in six outings.

It has been a tough start for a young Oswestry since stepping to a new league this term, but they could take heart from their display in the 23-10 loss at home to New Brighton last weekend.

After bowing out of the WRU Plate with a narrow 9-7 first round exit at home to Bethesda, COBRA turn their attention back to their survival fight in the North Wales League division one when they entertain Llandudno on Saturday.

They currently lie third from bottom, with just one win in five outings this term, while the Seasiders are three places above with two wins to their names.

WELSHPOOL, themselves beaten 23-20 by Bangor University in the WRU Bowl despite a second half fightback, also return to league action when they entertain Machynlleth in the the North Two East on Saturday.



Xavi Clarke

Clarke off to Sri Lanka with England

YOUNG Oswestry cricketer Xavi Clarke has earned his place on a prestigious tour of Sri Lanka with an England squad next spring.

Clarke impressed the selectors with his performance in the Best of Bunbury game held at Loughborough University at the end of August.

He is in a 14-man squad which will travel to Sri Lanka on March 23 for two 40 over games and two 50 over games in Colombo and Galle. There are also plans for the side to play a game of beach cricket during their stay.

The tour has been organised to mark the 30th anniversary of the Bunbury Festival, organised by philanthropist and cricket fanatic David English which features the cream of under-15s cricketers from across

CRICKET by John Bridgwater

the country each year.

Right handed batsman and wrist spinner Clarke top scored for the Midlands and North side in the first innings of the Best of Bunbury game with 78.

The all rounder also helped Oswestry retain their place in the Birmingham League Division Two in the season just finished, and also played for Shropshire under-15s and the Worcestershire Academy.

His selection comes just weeks after older brother Joe, who plays for Worcestershire, was picked for two England Lions training squads this winter and games against the United Arab Emirates and Afghanistan.

Clarke is joined in the squad by fellow Worcester Academy player Jack Haynes who will captain the side.

Cricketer Shropshire's Steve Aston, who will manage the squad in Sri Lanka, said he was delighted to see Clarke selected.

He said: "Xavi fully deserves his place in the squad following his performances both at the Bunbury Festival and at the Best of Bunbury game. It should be a really good tour for the boys, with one of the games being played at the iconic Test ground in Galle."

Clarke is joined in the squad by fellow Worcester Academy player Jack Haynes who will captain the side. Cricketer Shropshire's Steve Aston, who will manage the squad in Sri Lanka, said he was delighted to see Clarke selected.

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SCOTLAND TRIP AGAIN FOR TNS

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

THE New Saints are in confident mood despite finding themselves on the road again with an away tie at Livingston in the quarter-finals of the IRN-BRU Scottish Challenge Cup.

After their fine 3-1 victory at Scottish second division high fliers Forfar Athletic on their debut appearance, the Welsh Premier champions now face another trek north of the border next month, this time to West Lothian.

The Welsh Premier League leaders are the only non-Scottish team remaining after Welsh Premier rivals Bala Town and Northern Ireland duo Crusaders and Linfield all bowed out at the first hurdle.

Now standing in their way is a Livingston side that currently lies second in the Scottish League division one, just two points off leaders Brechin, with six wins from eight outings. Despite missing out on a home tie, boss Craig Harrison is backing his unbeaten troops to rise to the occasion again after being installed joint favourites to lift the trophy along with Dundee United.

Privilege

"We'll have a healthy respect for Livingston, but we won't fear them," said the Saints boss whose side have won all 12 games this season.

"It's a privilege representing Wales and the league in this competition, and is another challenge everyone's looking forward to."

Livingston are certain prove a tough obstacle at their Almondvale Stadium after reaching the last eight with a 2-1 win away to Crusaders in Belfast, thanks to a last-minute Steve Pressman winner.

Harrison says his side can draw on the experience of their 3-1 victory at Forfar in the previous round in which they were made to battle all the way before a Greg Draper hat-trick proved decisive.

"It was a tough place to come, we were away from home against a physical and very direct Scottish team, so the players deserve a lot of credit," added the manager.



It's curtains for Forfar as Greg Draper celebrates a goal in the IRN-BRU Scottish Challenge Cup

Harrison will meet up with a familiar face when his side tackle Livingston next month – David Hopkin, now the manager of the Scottish League division one side.

The two were opponents when the TNS boss made his Premier League debut for Middlesbrough in the goalless draw against Leeds United in August 1998. And they were later to become team-mates in 2001 when Harrison played for Crystal Palace in the 1-1 draw against Nottingham Forest in division one.

Draper, with eight league goals this season, became the fourth player to score a hat-trick in

this season's competition. With Bala Town beaten by Alloa Athletic and both Northern Ireland representatives, Crusaders and Linfield, also eliminated, TNS have made history by becoming the first non-Scottish side to reach the last eight.

After their cup exploits, it's back to Dafabet Welsh Premier business for runaway leaders The New Saints on Saturday when the host Llandudno in a televised clash at Park Hall (5.15pm).

The Saints go into the game eight points clear, and looking to complete a double having won 5-0 away to the Seasiders earlier in the season.

Villagers hit the road for Trophy test

LLANRHAEADR will have their work cut out if they hope to progress to the fourth round of the FAW Trophy when they head to Llanuwchllyn on Saturday, writes JOHN BRIDGWATER.

The villagers kept their flag flying with a last-gasp 4-3 victory over Dolgellau in the last round, but face an even tougher assignment this weekend against a strong Gwynedd side that have already swept aside Berriw 3-0.

Keeper Connor Lee is expected to remain in goal after replacing Harry Mathews who missed last weekend's 6-0 Spar League Cup stroll at Aberystwyth University with concussion. Kieran Evans and Dan Kelly both come back into contention.

Churchstoke's reward for their fine 3-0 win over Knighton Town in the previous round sees them entertain Spar League rivals Radnor Valley.

Elsewhere, Carno make the short trip to Llanidloes Town and Tywyn Brynrcrug welcome Machynlleth.

Meanwhile, after their 6-0 hammering of Aberystwyth University, Llanrhaeadr have been drawn at home to Machynlleth in the second round of the Spar League Cup.

Berriw, who have been boosted by the signing of versatile defender/midfielder Matt Bumford from Llanfair United, face a home tie with Hay St Mary's.

Full Spar League Cup draw: Bow Street v Churchstoke, Knighton Town v Rhayader Town, Carno v Aberaeron, Llanrhaeadr v Machynlleth, Dolgellau v Abermule, Radnor Valley v Dyffryn Barw, Llandrinod Wells v Kerry, Berriw v Hay St Mary's. Ties to be played on Saturday, November 19.

Rogers returns as St Martins boss

CRAIG Rogers is back as manager of St Martins after Ryan Butcher stepped down from his role at the West Midlands League division one club.

Butcher relinquished the reins after four years with the Saints, who have found the going tough this season, with last weekend's 3-0 home loss to Newport Town leaving them 13th in the table.

Rogers previously managed St Martins in the West Midlands League, before taking the helm at Morda United in 2011.

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